6 – 5 – 2022 The Gift of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12: 4 – 6 *4 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. 5 There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. 6 God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.*

Today we celebrate Pentecost, the moment the Holy Spirit, a gift from God came to live in all believers and transform us into the image of His Son Christ Jesus.

Who is the Holy Spirit? When we talk about God the Father, we can understand the concept of a Father, when we talk about God the Son Christ Jesus, again we can understand a Son, but what happens when we say, God the Holy Spirit?

People can understand something they see or know, but we can’t see the Spirit. However, the Holy Spirit is the third person of the triune God, He is not an, it, but a person of the Godhead, and He lives in every believer. Counseling, comforting, guiding, directing, and loving us as He transforms us into the image of Christ Jesus.

Jesus explains that the Spirit will convince, guide, speak, declare, and glorify in John 16: 13 - 14 *13 When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future. 14 He will bring me glory by telling you whatever He receives from Me. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, ‘The Spirit will tell you whatever He receives from Me.’*

The Holy Spirit does today what Jesus did two thousand years ago.

Jesus’ ministry on earth was to teach the things of the Father. He explained the law, showed people their sin, equipped them for ministry, and brought support and comfort to those who believed.

Jesus said in Matthew 28: 18 – 20 *18 Jesus came and told His disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this:*

*I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

The role of the Spirit in us is to remind us of the Words of Christ. He is actively doing the work of Christ

and was sent by Christ to indwell believers, He is our resident presence of God.

I take comfort in knowing God's Holy Spirit is my personal intimate co-worker in God’s Kingdom.

He lives inside of us, and when we allow, He cleans out the un-Christlike parts of us and gives power to those who surrender to Him, to fill each part of their lives with Christ.

We live in a lost and challenging world, and God’s Spirit working in us helps us to keep our footing, and to stand firm in faith.

When we accept Jesus our Lord, and Savior, we receive the Holy Spirit. God’s Spirit is inside every believer, all the time.

You don’t have to experience earth shaking “feelings” or emotions, you don’t have to jump, shout, cry, roll on the floor, or have any such outward displays of physical emotions to be indwelt with the Spirit of God.

The Holy Spirit enters and establishes a new relationship with us and God, but this is only the beginning of His work in us.

The Holy Spirit marks us as belonging to God. Ephesians 1:13-14 *13 And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, He identified you as His own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom He promised long ago.*

*14 The Spirit is God’s guarantee that He will give us the inheritance He promised and that He has purchased us to be His own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify Him.*

The Spirit of God is our seal of salvation, so that God can see from Heaven and know us to be His sons and daughters.

God's Spirit becomes our direct line, through Jesus, to the Father God.

God's Spirit convicts us of sin and the need for righteousness in our lives. As written in John 16: 8 *And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin,*

*and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.*

He teaches us to obey the Lord and to trust Him to direct our every step, and to put all our cares on Him for He is greater than any problem.

Through the Spirit we learn to develop greater reliance on the Lord, and less on human wisdom, or strength, or our own abilities.

The Spirit knows our search for truth in the visible world is futile, a total waste of time and energy, we must seek God’s Word.

From John 17: 7 *Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you,*

The truth into which the Holy Spirit guides us is the truth about Christ. The Spirit also helps us through patient practice to discern right from wrong.

John 16: 13 *When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future.*

Jesus said the Holy Spirit would tell them “about the future” the nature of their mission, the opposition they would face, and the final outcome of their efforts.

They didn’t fully understand these promises until the Holy Spirit came after Jesus’ died and rose from the dead.

Then the Holy Spirit revealed truths to the disciples that they wrote down in the books that now form the New Testament.

He teaches us ways to see things deeper than what’s on the surface, to help point out blind spots in our minds eye to those areas that are not fully surrendered to God.

The Holy Spirit helps us to know God. Ephesians 1: 17 – 18 *17 asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.*

*18 I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope He has given to those He called His holy people who are His rich and glorious inheritance.*

He makes us wise and reveals God to us, and He helps us to understand the mind of God.

Without the Spirit, you cannot understand the things of God. We need spiritual “eyes” in our hearts in order to see God and His ways more clearly.

That’s when we begin to understand the mind of God, how He thinks, and how that knowledge will help us in our daily walk.

The more we want know of Him, the more the Spirit reveals to us.

One of the most important things the Holy Spirit does for us is to help us learn to think like God. When His Spirit takes over our thoughts, that’s when things happen.

Our priorities change. Before Christ, it was all about me, what I could do, what I wanted, what I thought was best.

We don’t belong to ourselves anymore; we belong to God. We have been bought with a price and are no longer our own.

We become better because God’s Spirit is the superior influence in our life, not because we are superior as individuals.

The Holy Spirit gives wisdom beyond our natural abilities, as we learn to listen to Him. We are told in James 3:17 *But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of charitable deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.*

If we allow ourselves to be completely immersed in God, to focus on His thoughts, then we can do powerful things in this world.

The Spirit helps us to pray. He guides us in what to pray for and how to pray. Romans 8:26 *And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.*

When we are committed to praying seriously, the Spirit helps us know how to pray and can bring God’s power into the lives of those we care about through intercession.

The Spirit seeks to bring greater joy to the Lord through every believer. John 16: 14 *He (the Spirit) will bring Me glory by telling you whatever He receives from Me.*

1 Corinthians 12: 4 – 6 *4 There are various kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. 5 There are various kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. 6 God works in unusual ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.*

**The Holy Spirit is our Gift and our Gift giver.**

Our motivation for receiving the Holy Spirit is not to have a ‘gift’ but to want to be everything that God wants us to be, and not miss the blessings He wants to give us.

God is completely involved in the giving, using, and empowering of gifts. Specific gifts, places of service, and activities vary, but they all have their best effects when they build up the body of Christ, the church.

**All ministry is God’s ministry accomplished through us, His children.**

God creates a unique place in the body for every believer. Gifts and ministries may overlap, but each believer has a specialized, God-designed role.

Part of the exciting adventure of following Christ involves discovering one’s service contribution and then making it available to God. Make serving God and His people your motive as you utilize your gifts.

The Spirit gives us power to see God’s purpose for our life. God has called each of us to follow Him and has given us a purpose and a hope.

That’s our reason for following Him and for doing what we do, how very great is His power at work in you.

The Holy Spirit reminds us of who we are in Christ. There is a list of Scripture Passages in your bulletin this morning as a reminder for you to take home.

WE ARE :

God’s children John 1: 12 *But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God.*

Christ’s friend John 15:15 *I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn’t confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me.*

United with the Lord 1 Corinthians 6: 17 *But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.*

Bought with a price 1 Corinthians 6: 19 – 20 *19 Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, 20 for God bought you with a high price. So, you must honor God with your body.*

Member of the body of Christ 1 Corinthians 12:27 *Now* *all of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a separate and necessary part of Him.*

A saint, set apart for God Ephesians 1:1 *This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. To the saints in Ephesus, the believers who are in Christ Jesus.*

Established, anointed, sealed by God Colossians 2:10 *So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.*

Citizens of Heaven Philippians 3:20 *But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for Him to return as our Savior.*

Salt and light of the earth Matthew 5:13-14 *13 “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. 14 “You are the light of the world like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.*

Assured all things work together for God Romans 8: 28 *And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.*

God’s Temple 1 Corinthians 3: *16 Don’t you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?*

Seated with God in Heavenly realms Ephesians 2: 6 *For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.*

Redeemed and forgiven Colossians 1: 13 – 14 *13 For He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.*

A personal witness of Christ Acts 1: 8 *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

Can approach God with freedom and confidence Ephesians 3: 12 *Because of Christ and our faith in Him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God’s presence.*

Cannot be separated from love of God Romans 8: 35 – 39 *35 Can anything ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? 36 (As the Scriptures say, “For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.”*

*37 No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. 38 And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor* *demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. 39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Can do all things through Christ . Philippians 4: 13 *For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*

A branch of the true vine John 15: 1 – 5 *1 “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and He prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. 3 You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. 4 Remain in Me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in Me. 5 “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in Me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from Me you can do nothing.*

Complete in Christ Colossians 2: 10 *So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.*

In short, we belong to God!

Closing with 2 Corinthians 13: 14 *May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**The Holy Spirit reminds us of who we are in Christ.**

WE ARE :

. God’s children John 1: 12

. Christ’s friend John 15: 15

. United with the Lord 1Corinthians 6: 17

. Bought with a price 1 Corinthians 6: 19 - 20

. Member of the body of Christ 1 Corinthians 12: 27

. A saint, set apart for God Ephesians 1: 1

. Established, anointed, sealed by God Colossians 2: 10

. Citizen of Heaven Philippians 3: 20

. Salt and light of the earth Matthew 5: 13 - 14

. Assured all things work together for God Romans 8 :28

. God’s Temple 1Corinthians 3: 16

. Seated with God in Heavenly realms Ephesians 2: 6

. Redeemed and forgiven Colossians 1: 14

. A personal witness of Christ Acts 1: 8

. Can approach God with freedom and confidence Ephesians 3: 12

. Cannot be separated from love of God Romans 8: 35 - 39

. Can do all things through Christ Philippians 4: 13

. A branch of the true vine John 15: 1 - 5

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