

HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit of God took up permanent residency within you on the day that you received the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. The Holy Spirit is God's personal presence in your life, and he desires to make you holy as you learn to walk with him. This third person of the Godhead is often misunderstood, and ignored in Christianity.

The key word of this lesson is:

INDWELL

The key question this lesson answers:

What is the role and function of the Holy Spirit in my life?

The key purpose of this lesson:

To give you a basic understanding of the TRUE work of the Holy Spirit of God in your life.

The key point of this lesson:

The Holy Spirit dwells within you.

MEMORY VERSES:

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." – 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." – Galatians 5:22-23

WHAT DOES THE SPIRIT OF GOD DO WITHIN ME?

THE KEY POINT OF THIS LESSON!

The Holy Spirit dwells within you. Throughout the bible, we read about men and women who encountered the presence of God in various times and places. When you accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour, God gave his Spirit to dwell within you. You now have God's presence inside of you, and your body has become the temple of the Holy Ghost!

John 14:16-17; Galatians 3:2; 1 Corinthians 3:16

A. The Holy Spirit is the seal and earnest (*guarantee*) of your salvation.

Ephesians 1:13-14

B. The Holy Spirit empowers you to serve God.

Ephesians 3:16

C. The Holy Spirit bears witness to you of your salvation.

Romans 8:16

D. The Holy Spirit intercedes in prayer for you.

Romans 8:26-27

E. The Holy Spirit will teach you the bible.

John 16:13-15; 1 Corinthians 2:9-14

F. The Holy Spirit gives you direction in decision-making.

1 Corinthians 2:15-16

G. The Holy Spirit comforts you in time of need.

John 14:15-18

H. The Holy Spirit will bring what he has taught you to your remembrance.

John 14:26

I. The Holy Spirit will convict you of your sin.

John 16:8-11

DISCUSSION:

How does being the temple of God change the way you live your life?

Can you share an example of the Holy Spirit helping you to understand of a passage in the bible?

HOW DOES MY SIN AFFECT THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. Your sin grieves the Holy Spirit.

God placed his Spirit within each believer because it is his desire that our lives reflect his character in the world. The Holy Spirit is grieved (saddened) when believers choose to live their lives for their own carnal desires.

Ephesians 4:30

B. Your sin quenches the Holy Spirit.

When believers continuously and intentionally ignore the conviction of the Holy Spirit, it will result in a seared conscience and hardened heart. The Holy Spirit will become quenched (extinguished) because their hard heart will ignore the promptings of the Holy Spirit to lead them into holiness.

1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 4:1-2

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The bible uses the words “*godly sorrow*” to describe conviction, and “*sorrow of the world*” to describe guilt. It can be difficult for a believer to tell the difference between conviction and guilt because they often feel similar; however, they both have very different results.

Conviction comes from God revealing specific sin in your life so that you choose to repent. Conviction produces godly sorrow and the disappointment that you have offended God. It leads you **TO** God through repentance, and produces the fruit of forgiveness, peace, and a right relationship with God.

Guilt originates from Satan trying to accuse you of being unworthy of God’s love and blessings. It produces depression, anxiety, resentment, and a bitterness that drives you **FROM** having fellowship with God.

2 Corinthians 7:9-11

DISCUSSION:

Is there anything in your life that is causing the Holy Spirit to be grieved?

WHAT IS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit of God produces a set of godly qualities within you called the fruit of Spirit. Each quality is produced at the same time as you give your life to God and walk in his power. It is important to understand that there is only one fruit of the Spirit that is manifested in nine different qualities. The only way to become Christ-like is to see the fruit of the Spirit manifested in your life.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” – Galatians 5:22-23

A. There are inward qualities that transform your personal life.

1. Love

The Holy Spirit gives you a genuine love for God and others.

2. Joy

The Holy Spirit gives you a deep abiding joy regardless of external circumstances.

3. Peace

The Holy Spirit gives you an inner peace even in the midst of conflict.

B. There are outward qualities that transform your relationships with others.

1. Longsuffering

The Holy Spirit allows you to give grace to others despite their shortcomings.

2. Gentleness

The Holy Spirit gives you the ability to treat others with dignity, courtesy, and respect.

3. Goodness

The Holy Spirit gives you a godly character that reflects God’s goodness.

C. There are upward qualities that transform your relationship with God.

1. Faith

The Holy Spirit gives you a confidence to trust God’s word.

2. Meekness

The Holy Spirit gives you an inner strength that is manifested in humility.

3. Temperance

The Holy Spirit leads you into a balanced life.

DISCUSSION:

Which of these spiritual qualities (fruit) would you like to see further growth in?

WHAT ARE THE WORKS OF THE FLESH?

The fruit of the Spirit cannot be produced within believers who follow the leading of their flesh over the leading of the Spirit. It is easy to identify believers who choose to live in sin because the works of the flesh are made evident in their lives.

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” – Galatians 5:19-21

– **Adultery**

Being unfaithful to your spouse

– **Wrath**

The active work of hatred, displaying anger

– **Fornication**

Any sexual sin outside the marriage bonds

– **Strife**

To stimulate conflict, cause division

– **Uncleanness**

Obscenity, any pollution of the flesh

– **Seditions**

Drawing others away from the truth

– **Lasciviousness**

Vulgar, lustful, uncontrolled sexual desire

– **Heresies**

False teaching

– **Idolatry**

Worshipping anything other than God

– **Envyings**

Desiring ill will towards successful people

– **Witchcraft**

Use of Satanic power, the occult, rebellion

– **Murders**

To kill someone through literal or verbal means

– **Hatred**

Internal hostility

– **Drunkenness**

Letting any substance control your life

– **Variance**

Unnecessary quarelling, debates

– **Revellings**

Wild partying, indulging the flesh

– **Emulations**

Envy of others, zeal for the world

– **And such like**

Anything else that will draw you away from God

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Each item on this list is potentially warring in your flesh at this very moment. When the flesh is in control of you, any one of the works of the flesh will be manifested. The works of the flesh are present in your life because you are still carrying around your fleshly body. That is why the works of the flesh will eventually come out when you allow your flesh to be in control.

HOW CAN I BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT?

A. You are filled with the Spirit of God as you are filled with the word of God.

As you compare the passages below, you will observe that allowing the word of Christ to dwell in you and being filled with the Spirit have the same result in your life. You will be filled with the Spirit as your mind and heart are saturated with the word of God.

“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;” – Ephesians 5:18-19

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” – Colossians 3:16

B. You are filled with the Spirit of God as you allow him to control you.

Being filled with the Spirit is a life-long process of spiritual growth that requires you to be patient and consistent. As you grow and mature in your obedience to the word of God, the Holy Spirit will control your thoughts, actions, and desires.

“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.” – Galatians 5:25

IMPORTANT NOTE:

You now have two natures dwelling within you. Your old nature is physical, sinful, and made in Adam’s image. This nature is often referred to within scripture as the “flesh” or the “old man.” Your new nature is spiritual, perfect, and renewed in God’s image. This nature is often referred to in scripture as the “new man.”

Ephesians 4:22-24

Both natures are present within you at all times. You are now faced with a daily choice to follow your flesh or the Spirit. You must choose which nature you will follow. Choosing to follow the flesh will bring consequences, and choosing to follow the Spirit will bring blessings.

Galatians 5:16-17; 6:7-9

DISCUSSION:

Are you living a life that is filled with the Spirit?

How is your time in the word of God affecting how you are filled with the Spirit of God?

Which nature do you usually choose to follow? Why?

BASIC QUESTIONS YOU MAY BE ASKING

A. Should I pray and ask God to give me more of the Holy Spirit?

No. You were sealed by the Holy Spirit at the moment of your salvation. You do not need any more of God's Spirit, you only need to be filled with the Holy Spirit that you already have within you.

To be filled with the Spirit means that God is controlling your life by the Holy Spirit. The filling of the Spirit is NOT you getting more of the Spirit, but rather the Spirit getting more control of you. The filling of the Spirit does NOT lead you to an emotional or spiritual experience, but it rather leads you to proclaim the word of God.

Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:1-2

B. Will the Holy Spirit leave me when I sin?

No. You are sealed with the Holy Spirit until the day that you enter God's presence. The Holy Spirit is God's promise and guarantee that you are saved and will be His child for all of eternity.

Ephesians 4:30

C. Is the Holy Spirit a spiritual force, or is it part of the trinity?

The bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead. He is co-equal with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is to be obeyed as he provides guidance and instruction to believers.

Acts 5:3-4; 10:19-21; 13:1-4; 16:6-10

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

1. Where does the Holy Spirit dwell? List three scripture references to support your answer.

2. When does the Holy Spirit come into the believer's life?

3. List four examples of what the Holy Spirit does within you.

4. What is the difference between guilt and conviction?

5. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

6. Explain in your own words the difference between your two natures.

7. What is the key purpose of the lesson, and what has it taught you?

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

Read the following verses and write down the different names given to the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16

Acts 5:32

Galatians 4:6

John 14:17

Romans 8:2

Romans 8:9

Read the following verses and write down what happened after each individual was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:41-42

Luke 1:67-68

Acts 2:4

Acts 4:8

Acts 4:31

Acts 13:9-10

According to these passages, what is the common result after someone is filled with the Holy Spirit? _____

What can you learn about your relationship between the flesh and the Spirit from *Romans 8:8-10*?

What does *Galatians 3:1-3* teach you about how you are to continue to grow in your relationship with God?
