

"God" is the name of a divine nature, state, or character.

Summary

There is only <u>one</u> divine nature; there are <u>multiple</u> Persons that are divine -They are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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Summary

The concept of "relationship" comes from God. It is eternal, inherent, and perfectly enacted within the Godhead.

Nothing/no one is successful on its own. Relationships are absolutely essential.

Relationships imply roles. [This is important to understand!]

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The Holy Spirit is in a perfect relationship with the Father and the Word. These three work together in all things even though one may be more preeminent that the others.

The Holy Spirit is prominent in beginnings (i.e., creation, the church, a new Christian (child of God))

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#### Summary

When creating (or causing something to have a beginning), there are 3 things to consider:

- An 'a priori' thought, idea, concept, plan, or will existing in the mind prior to and independent of experience, as a faculty trait or character trait (Father)
- An <u>expression</u> of the thought, idea, concept, or plan (Word/Son (i.e., Jesus))
- An <u>inspiration</u> (impetus) for initiating and continuing the thought, idea, concept, or plan (Spirit)

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## Summary

The Spirit is a Revealer of truth. No conversion is recounted in Scripture where the gospel message was not spoken. Through the truth of the gospel, men were (and are) converted.

The Holy Spirit is responsible for the words of Scripture. He is involved in every conversion because it is through Him that the gospel was spoken and written. Conversions are accomplished the same way today.

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The Holy Spirit is associated with life, specifically, eternal life.

One must be born (begotten) of the Spirit to gain entrance into the kingdom of God (must also be born of water).

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## Summary

The Holy Spirit is very visible in some of the conversion stories we examined. In others, He is hardly seen at all.

The number of time believers were given the ability to speak in tongues at their conversion is very limited (only 3 times). These times appear to be for specific purposes, perhaps for the following:

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#### Summary

- The Samaritans spoke in tongues to show the Jews that those whom they considered inferior were also included in the invitation to be God's children.
- Cornelius and his family spoke in tongues to show the Jews that Gentiles were also included in the invitation to be God's children.
- The Ephesian disciples spoke in tongues to show that Christian baptism is different from John's baptism.

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There is a struggle that exists within a Christian regarding what will be allowed to control their thoughts and thus, their behavior.

Christians are exhorted to "think spiritually." This leads to specific thoughts and attitudes in our minds and behaviors in our bodies that ultimately lead to eternal life.

Conversely, thinking carnally leads to behaviors that ultimately lead to our death.

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#### Summary

Christians are in the Spirit when they have the words of Christ in their minds, directing their lives.

Jesus' words are spirit and they are life (John 6.63).

The Spirit is in Christians when Jesus' words (teaching) is in them and guiding their behavior and attitudes.

"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.".

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# Summary

The Holy Spirit dwells in the church, which is also called the temple of God. The church is comprised of individuals who have the Spirit active within them (in their minds/way of thinking).

Christians must be separated from unrighteousness, darkness, Satan, unbelievers, and idols. This is because Christians have been <u>sanctified</u> (set apart; made holy).

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Christians must understand the purpose of their physical body. Actions taken in the body are the result of what the mind directs. Behavior is a direct expression of our understanding of what it is to "think spiritually."

A Christian's spirit is so closely connected to the Spirit of Christ (and thus the Holy Spirit) that it is considered "one spirit" with Christ.

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## Summary

Our effort, in combination with the Holy Spirit's help, is how we grow into what God wants us to be.

Effort from the Christian is required in order to make the relationship that God seeks work. Recall relationship implies roles

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## Summary

The spiritual unity a Christian has with Christ must not be broken by an act of sexual immorality. This act defiles both body and mind, and thus defiles the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Summar	

Figurative language plays a major role in the Jesus' teaching while He was on earth.

The Holy Spirit dwelling within a Christian is best seen as figurative language, describing how one who has submitted to the teaching of Scripture and is allowing it to direct their thoughts and behaviors has the Holy Spirit in them.

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#### Summary

Acts 2.38 is a most important verse in this study.

Baptized believers are promised the gift of the Holy Spirit.

If we misinterpret what Peter told the Pentecost audience about this gift, we misunderstand what the Holy Spirit does and how He does it.

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#### Summary

God (Father, Word/Son, Holy Spirit) has a longing desire for a relationship with us. It is a spiritual relationship.

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This spiritual relationship is enacted when we allow the Holy Spirit into our minds (through what is spoken) to do the following:

- Lead us in the way that forms Christ within us
- Comfort us
- Intercede with the Father for us
- Increase our knowledge/understanding of God
- Strengthen our faith
- Move us to action (good works)

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## Summary

All three Members of the Godhead are involved in the creation of the opportunity for us to be in a relationship with them. They desperately want that with you and me... desperately enough to make the ultimate sacrifice for that to be possible.

The choice is ours... will we accept the invitation?

If we accept, will we then listen to what They say to us?

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## Summary

Will we listen to the point that we seek to live with thoughts, actions, speech, and behaviors that show we are fully engaged in nurturing that relationship?

# Summary

"For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints..." — Ephesians 3.14-18

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