

# WEEK 5 – The Holy Spirit

## Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is a person, the third person of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is not an impersonal force but a person equal in every way with the Father and the Son. All the divine attributes of the Father and the Son are equally present in the Holy Spirit.

A person has intellect, emotions, and will. According to the following verses:

What shows the intellect of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:11)?  
How are the emotions of the Holy Spirit shown (Romans 15:30)?  
How does the Holy Spirit exercise His will (1 Corinthians 12:11)?

Read John 14:16 and Acts 1:8. What are some of the roles of the Holy Spirit?

When you read John 16:7-15, why did the Holy Spirit come?

The moment you receive Christ, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you. As a result, you have the potential to live a life of victory over sin and witness in the power of the Holy Spirit. This potential is released by faith as you surrender control of your life to Him.

## The Work of the Holy Spirit

When you became a Christian, the Holy Spirit did a number of things for you. Read these verses and list what they are:

I Corinthians 3:16  
Ephesians 4:30  
I Corinthians 12:13

What are some things the Holy Spirit does for you as a Christian according to Romans 8:16, 26-27?

Can a person be a Christian and not have the Holy Spirit dwelling in Him? (Romans 8:9) Explain.

What is the main reason to be filled with the Holy Spirit? (Acts 1:8, Acts 4:29, 31)

The same Holy Spirit we see in the Bible, with His life-changing power, is available to each of us. Sadly, many Christians go through life without ever experiencing the abundant and fruitful life that Christ promised to all who trust Him. A desire to serve Jesus Christ and help others receive Him as their Lord and Savior should be your motive for being filled with the Holy Spirit.

## Fruit of the Spirit

According to Galatians 5:22-23, why do you need to be filled with the Holy Spirit?  
What will the Holy Spirit demonstrate in and through your life as a result of His filling you?  
Which specific fruit of the Spirit do you need the most of right now?

How then are you filled with the Holy Spirit? (John 7:37-39)

Will the Holy Spirit fill you if you ask Him? How do you know? (I John 5:14-15)

Read Acts 5:32. How should we respond to the Holy Spirit that God has given us?

## **Being Filled With The Holy Spirit**

If you are a Christian, the Holy Spirit already dwells within you. When you purchase a mechanical item that runs on batteries, frequently the notice "Batteries Not Included" is printed on the box. The Holy Spirit -- your source of power for living -- is "included" when you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. Therefore, you do not need to invite Him to come into your life. He came to live within you when you became a Christian, and Jesus promised that He will never leave you.

The moment you received Christ, the Holy Spirit not only came to indwell you, but He imparted to you spiritual life, causing you to be born anew as a child of God. The Holy Spirit also baptized you into the body of Christ. In I Corinthians 12:13, Paul explains, "We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body."

While it is true that the Holy Spirit now resides in your life once you are saved, being filled with the Holy Spirit is not a once-for-all experience. There are many fillings, as is made clear in Ephesians 5:18 (see "How To Be Filled Continually" below). You should desire to grow in Christ, allowing more of the Holy Spirit's activity in your life. God wants you to know how to operate in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pray this sample prayer at anytime to ask God to be filled more with His Holy Spirit's presence and power:

"Dear Lord, I submit myself to you. I want to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit's presence and power to do what You have called me to do. I want to experience and embrace your gifting. I want you to move from just resident in my life to president! I repent of sin and turn from evil and run toward you to fill me with your Holy Spirit."

## **Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

God gives gifts from the Holy Spirit to all those in Christ. You cannot work for them or earn them. These gifts are not used for selfish reasons but to bring Him glory and build His Church.

Read the following scriptures and list the gifts of the Holy Spirit you see:

Romans 12:4-8

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Ephesians 4:11-14

## **How to Be Filled Continually**

Read Ephesians 5:18. It literally means "keep on being filled constantly and continually." Living a godly life is a vital part of this process.

1. What characterizes the life of the Christian who is "being filled" constantly and continually? (John 15:1-11, Galatians 5:16-25)

2. Which two commandments do you think are most important to living the Spirit-filled life? (Matthew 22:36-40) Why?
3. Being filled is like Spiritual Breathing. Exhale: I John 1:9. Inhale: Ephesians 5:18, I John 5:14-15
4. How can Spiritual Breathing enable you to live a godly life and be filled continually with the Holy Spirit?
5. To be filled continually with the Holy Spirit, you must abide in Christ. Read John 15:1-11. How can you do that? (John 14:21, 15:10) What does the example of the vine and the branches in verses 1-8 mean to you in your Christian life?

## Daily Application

Use the daily application section below to further your understanding of today's discipleship lesson.

### DAY 1

Read Galatians 5:22-23. Using this verse, explain why so many Christians are unhappy. According to each of the following verses, what are some reasons that can keep Christians from being filled with the Holy Spirit?

- Psalm 119:105
- Proverbs 16:18
- Proverbs 29:25
- Luke 9:26)

Read Psalm 66:18. What is another barrier between you and the Lord that keeps you from being filled with the Spirit?

What else can divert you from being filled with the Spirit? (I John 2:15-17)

Lack of trust in God will also keep you from being filled with the Holy Spirit. Describe how the following verses help you trust God fully.

- John 3:16
- Romans 8:32
- I John 3:16

Basically, the reason most Christians are not filled with the Holy Spirit is that they are unwilling to surrender their wills to God.

According to the scriptures you looked at in your one-on-one lesson:

1. What should be your motives for being filled with the Spirit?
2. How can you be filled with the Spirit?
3. How do you know you are filled with the Spirit?
4. How can you continue to be filled with the Spirit?

### Day 2

Read Acts 1:8. How do you see this power at work in your life?

How does John 15:16 apply to you today?

How do you identify with I Corinthians 12:1-11 and Ephesians 4:11?

What mannerisms, language, activities, and inconsistencies in your life do you think are hindering the Holy Spirit from developing His fruit, power, and gifts in you?

What happens as we are occupied with Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to work in us? (II Corinthians 3:18)

Though you may not be aware of a change immediately, with the passing of time you will see some evidence of your being filled with the Spirit. If there is no change, the Holy Spirit is not in charge. Do you think a person can be filled with the Holy Spirit and not be aware of it? Explain your answer. Ask yourself these questions about some of the evidences of being filled with the Spirit:

Do you have a greater love for Christ?

Do you have a greater love for God's word?

Is prayer more important to you?

Are you more concerned for those who do not know Christ as Savior?

Are you experiencing a greater boldness, liberty, and power in witnessing?

### **DAY 3**

Read Ephesians 4:25-32. How do you grieve the Holy Spirit? Which commandment in that list do you need to pay special attention to?

How can you get rid of the sin in your life? According to Romans 8:13, what does the Holy Spirit want for you?

Spend time daily in prayer and Bible study. What do these verses teach about the role of prayer in the life of the Spirit-filled believer? Hebrews 4:15-16, James 5:16, I Samuel 12:23, James 1:5, Acts 4:31

What do these verses tell us about the role of God's Word in the Spirit-filled life? (Romans 1:16, Hebrews 4:12, II Timothy 2:15, II Timothy 3:16-17)

According to these verses, what role does obedience have in the Spirit-filled life? (John 14:15, 23-26)

According to Acts 1:8, for what purpose was the Holy Spirit given?

How is the Holy Spirit's fullness and power evident in your life?

List any areas of your life in which the Holy Spirit is not in control.

List the areas where the Holy Spirit is in control.

What practical steps will you take this week to give the Holy Spirit full control of those areas that you have not surrendered to Him?

Have you realized a victory today over a sin you confessed yesterday? Describe.

Is the Holy Spirit a personality or an impersonal force? How do you know? What is the chief reason the Holy Spirit has come?

What is the command of Ephesians 5:18?

What is the promise of I John 5:14-15?

Name as many reasons as you can that Christians are not filled with the Holy Spirit: