

Daily Devotions

Day 1: The Spirit Who Is Present With You

Reading: John 15:26 and John 16:7

Jesus did not leave His disciples without a companion. Before ascending to the Father, He promised the Advocate, the one called alongside to help. This was not a vague comfort but a specific, personal promise. The Holy Spirit is not a distant force watching from afar. He abides with you and within you. Many Christians live as though they are spiritually alone, straining under burdens they were never meant to carry unassisted. Today, pause and acknowledge that you are not alone. The Helper is present. Surrender your striving and receive His nearness. In what areas of your life have you been operating as though the Holy Spirit is absent?

Day 2: The Spirit Who Is Fully God

Reading: Acts 5:1-4 and Genesis 1:1-2

When Peter confronted Ananias, he made something unmistakably clear: lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God. This is not a minor theological footnote. It is a declaration that shapes how we relate to the Spirit entirely. He is not a secondary spiritual influence or a lesser member of the Godhead. He is coeternal and coequal with the Father and the Son. He was present at creation, hovering over the waters. He has always been God. When you understand this truth, casual indifference toward the Holy Spirit becomes impossible. Reverence and trust naturally follow. Does your daily life reflect a genuine reverence for the Holy Spirit as God, or do you treat Him as optional?

Day 3: The Spirit Who Transforms From Within

Reading: Ephesians 5:18 and 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Dwight L. Moody illustrated a profound truth with a simple glass of water. The goal of the Christian life is not to eliminate one sin at a time through sheer willpower. The goal is to be so filled with the Holy Spirit that there is no room for anything else. This is the inside-out transformation that the gospel produces. Your body is described in Scripture as a temple of the Holy Spirit. That is not a metaphor to be admired but a reality to be lived. Fullness is not a one-time experience. It is a daily surrender and a daily invitation. What is currently occupying space in your heart that is crowding out the fullness of the Holy Spirit?

Day 4: The Spirit Who Guides You Into Truth

Reading: John 16:13 and 2 Peter 1:20-21

The same Holy Spirit who moved through the prophets to produce the inspired Word of God now illumines that Word within your heart when you read it. Scripture is not a closed book to the believer. The Spirit unlocks it, making ancient words living and active in your present circumstances. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus described their hearts burning within them as the Scriptures were explained. That same illumination is available to you every time you open the Bible. But it requires more than reading. It requires approaching Scripture with openness, humility, and dependence on the Spirit's teaching. Do you approach your Bible reading expecting the Holy Spirit to speak, or has it become a routine without anticipation?

Day 5: The Spirit Who Lifts You Higher

Reading: Romans 8:26-27 and Zechariah 4:6

Birds of prey do not soar by flapping harder. They seek thermals, rising columns of warm air, and surrender to the lift. The Christian life works the same way. You were not designed to generate your own spiritual altitude through exhausting effort. You were designed to seek the Holy Spirit and surrender to His upward current. He intercedes for you when you cannot find words. He gives vision when the path is unclear. He provides power when your strength is gone. Stop flapping. Seek the thermal. The Holy Spirit lifts you to heights you cannot reach on your own. Where in your life are you exhausting yourself through self-reliance rather than surrendering to the Spirit's leading?

Deacons on Call

> **Cleve Bearden** and **Marc Traweek**

Weekly Events

- **Worship:** Sundays at 9:45 AM
- **Small Groups:** Sundays at 11 AM
- **Deep Dive:** Wednesdays at Noon and 6:45 PM
- **First Kids:** Wednesdays at 5:30
- **First Youth:** Wednesdays MS at 5:30, HS at 6:45



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Sermon Notes and Devotional

TODAY'S MESSAGE
The Holy Spirit

John 15:26

OCTOBER 18, 2026

The Holy Spirit

John 15:26

1. The Holy Spirit is a _____.

The Holy Spirit ...

- has a mind (Romans 8:27);
- has a will (1 Corinthians 12:11);
- shows love (Romans 15:30);
- prays or intercedes for us (Romans 8:26);
- can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30);
- can be insulted (Hebrews 10:29);
- can be lied to (Acts 5:3-4);
- can be quenched (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

Dr. R.A. Torrey: "They are reaching out after and struggling to get possession of some mysterious and mighty power that they can make use of in their work according to their own will. **But the Holy Spirit is to get hold of them.** We must rejoice that there is no divine power that we, being so ignorant as we are, so liable to err, could ever get a hold of and use. How appalling might be the results if there were."

2. The Holy Spirit is _____.

3. The Holy Spirit is our _____.

a. The Holy Spirit _____ Scripture.

b. The Holy Spirit _____ Scripture.

Scripture References (In order of use): John 16:1-15; Genesis 1:2; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Corinthians 6:19; John 3:5; Acts 5:3-4; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Luke 24:32

Reference Works: Addresses on the Gospel of John (H. A. Ironside); The Gospel of John (Jack Wilson Stallings); The Gospel of John, Volume 2 (William Barclay); John (Kenneth O. Gangel); John—That You May Believe (R. Kent Hughes); The Message of John (Bruce Milne)

Discussion Questions

1. Before hearing this sermon, how would you have described the Holy Spirit to someone unfamiliar with Christianity?
2. Read **John 15:26**. Is there anything from the sermon you would like to discuss?
3. Patrick points out that throughout church history, various groups have denied the personhood of the Holy Spirit, treating Him as a force or impersonal essence. Why do you think this misunderstanding is so common, even among sincere believers?
4. Scripture says the Holy Spirit can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30), quenched (1 Thessalonians 5), and lied to (Acts 5). Since He is a person in relationship with us, how should this shape the way we live day to day?
5. Acts 5:3-4 records Peter telling Ananias that lying to the Holy Spirit is the same as lying to God. Why is it significant that the Bible makes this direct connection? How does recognizing the Holy Spirit as fully God affect the reverence you bring to your relationship with Him?
6. The Holy Spirit was present at creation, moved the prophets, and now dwells within believers. What does it mean to you personally that the same Spirit who hovered over the waters in Genesis 1:2 now lives inside of you?
7. Patrick describes the *paracletus* as "one who is called alongside to help" and "one who is called to stand by you constantly, and take part in anything in which His help is needed." In what current circumstances in your life do you most need this kind of help?
8. Patrick distinguishes between two works of the Holy Spirit related to Scripture: Inspiration (what He did in the past to produce Scripture) and Illumination (what He does today to help us understand it). Have you ever experienced a moment where Scripture suddenly came alive to you in a new way? What were the circumstances around that moment?
9. When can we get together and have some fun?