

The Holy Spirit

Fieldstone 2/15/26

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The Holy Spirit is as essential to our spiritual life as air and water are to our physical life. Yet He is often the most neglected person of the Trinity. Without the Spirit, we cannot be born again, understand God's truth, or live the new life Christ offers. This week, we'll explore who the Holy Spirit is, what He does, and how being filled with Him changes everything about how we live.

Ice Breaker

What's something you've tried to do on your own that would have been much easier with help from someone else?

Big Ideas from the Sermon

- The Holy Spirit is a person, not just a force - He has will, emotions, thoughts, and can be grieved, resisted, or blasphemed.
 - The Holy Spirit is fully God - He is omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, and equal with the Father and the Son.
 - Without the Holy Spirit, we have no spiritual life - He convicts us of sin, gives us new birth, helps us understand Scripture, and empowers us to witness.
 - The Holy Spirit produces Jesus' character in us - He doesn't just inspire good behavior; He transforms us from the inside out.
 - Being filled with the Spirit means being Spirit-controlled - It's not about having more of Him, but Him having more of us.
 - We cannot grow spiritually by our own strength - We are saved by grace and sanctified by the Spirit, not by human effort.
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Discussion Questions

Discussion

UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE

1. Read John 16:12-15. Jesus told His disciples it was better for Him to leave so the Spirit could come. What does the Spirit do according to this passage, and why would that be better than having Jesus physically present?

2. Read Romans 8:9 and Colossians 1:27. How do these verses describe the relationship between the Holy Spirit and a believer? What does it mean that "if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him"?

3. The sermon outlined many things we cannot do without the Holy Spirit (be born again, understand truth, live a new life, etc.). Which of these was most eye-opening to you, and why?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

4. Read Ephesians 4:30. The Spirit can be grieved by our actions. When you think about your daily life, what attitudes or behaviors might grieve the Holy Spirit who lives in you?

5. The sermon emphasized that the Spirit is a person, not just a power or force. How does thinking of the Holy Spirit as a person change the way you relate to Him in prayer, worship, or daily decisions?

6. Read Galatians 3:3. Have you ever fallen into "the Galatian problem" - trying to grow spiritually through your own effort rather than by yielding to the Spirit? What does that look like in your life?

LIFE APPLICATION

7. Being "filled with the Spirit" means being Spirit-controlled - letting Him have more of us. What is one specific area of your life where you need to yield control to the Holy Spirit this week? (Examples: your schedule, relationships, finances, words, emotions)

8. Read Galatians 5:22-23. Looking at the fruit of the Spirit, which one do you most need the Spirit to develop in your life right now? What would it look like to depend on Him rather than try to produce it yourself?

Prayer Prompt

Father, thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to dwell in us. Forgive us for the times we've neglected Him, grieved Him, or tried to live by our own strength. Help us to yield every area of our lives to His control. We confess that apart from You, we can do nothing. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we might know Your truth, live Your life, and bear witness to Your love. May the fruit of the Spirit be evident in us, not by our effort, but by Your power. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Short Small Group Guide

Quick Recap

The Holy Spirit is as essential to our spiritual life as air and water are to our physical life. He is a person, fully God, and without Him we cannot be saved, understand Scripture, or live the Christian life. Being filled with the Spirit means yielding control to Him rather than relying on our own strength.

Read Together

John 16:12-15 - "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you."

Discuss

1. The sermon said being "filled with the Spirit" isn't having more of Him, but Him having more of us. What is one area of your life where you need to yield control to the Holy Spirit this week?
2. Read Galatians 3:3. How can we avoid "the Galatian problem" of trying to grow spiritually by our own effort rather than by depending on the Spirit?

Closing Prayer

Pray that God would help each person yield fully to the Holy Spirit's control and rely on His power rather than their own strength.