

The Holy Spirit: What He Does

*"Life Foundations: Christian Faith Essentials", Part 7
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THE BIG IDEA: THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO ENTERS OUR LIVES WHEN WE FIRST EXPERIENCE SALVATION ALSO DOES HIS WORK IN AND THROUGH US

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you..." (Acts 1:8a, NIV)

I) THE PERSONHOOD OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: NOT AN IMPERSONAL FORCE

The Holy Spirit is a person because He is REFERRED TO, ACTS LIKE and is COMPARED TO other persons.

II) THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: FULL DEITY AND EQUALITY IN THE TRINITY

The Holy Spirit is God because He has the ATTRIBUTES, ACTIVITY and equal ASSOCIATION with the Father and the Son.

III) THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Holy Spirit was involved in the CREATION of the world, was the inspiration behind the PROPHETS, and SELECTIVELY AND NON-PERMANENTLY in-dwelt people.

IV) THE PROCESSION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: MAKING HIS WAY INTO OUR LIVES

The Holy Spirit shows us the TRUTH("convicting"),
gives us a NEW LIFE ("regenerating"),
lives WITHIN US ("indwelling"),
joins us into GOD'S FAMILY ("baptizing"),
ETERNALLY SECURES US in God ("sealing"), and
equips us with GIFTS to serve. ("gifting")

V) THE PRO-ACTIVITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: DOING HIS WORK THRU OUR LIVES

1) The Holy Spirit **CONTROLS** our way of living. (“filling”)

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead be filled with the Spirit.”
(Ephesians 5:18, NIV)

2) The Holy Spirit **TEACHES US** spiritual truth. (“instructing”)

“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak... He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose it to you.”
(John 16:12-15, NASB)

3) The Holy Spirit **LEADS US** in the way to go. (“guiding”)

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” (Romans 8:14, NASB)

4) The Holy Spirit **AFFIRMS** that we are children of God. (“assuring”)

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” (Romans 8:16, NASB)

5) The Holy Spirit **PRAYS FOR US** and through us. (“interceding”)

“And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weaknesses; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”
(Romans 8:26-27, NASB)

6) The Holy Spirit **EMPOWERS US** to share the gospel with others. (“empowering”)

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
(Acts 1:8, NIV)

7) The Holy Spirit **REVEALS AND ENLIGHTENS** information about the future.

“...He will disclose to you what is to come.” (John 16:13b, NASB)

VI) GOING WITH THE FLOW OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: SOME PRACTICAL STEPS

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desires against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law."

(Galatians 5:16-18, NASB)

- 1) **SEEK** the Holy Spirit's work in your life.

- 2) **SURRENDER** to the Holy Spirit's "leadings" in your life.

- 3) **WORSHIP** the Holy Spirit as God in us.

***SUMMARY THOUGHT: BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AT WORK IN MY LIFE,
I WILL LET HIM AND TRUST HIM TO LEAD MY LIFE!***

VII) QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION IN GROUPS OR FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- 1) Why does Paul contrast being drunk with wine to being filled with the Holy Spirit? How are they similar enough that Paul would use them together? (Hint: use the idea, 'As being drunk does "blank" negatively, being filled with the Holy Spirit does "blank" positively').

- 2) How does the "teaching" work of the Holy Spirit differ from His work in "leading" us? Explain your thoughts

- 3) Have you ever sensed a time when the Holy Spirit prayed a prayer through you? Share that event.

- 4) What are some ways you can worship the Holy Spirit for being active in your life today? Find two or three ways in which you can apply this session to your life.