



LESSON 6

THE HOLY SPIRIT: HIS WORK AND GIFTS



It is vital that a disciple of Jesus Christ understand the work and gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Bible proclaims that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit at the same time. The third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, has often been misunderstood, neglected, and even ignored by many teachers because many aspects of the Holy Spirit are so hard to understand.

Who is the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do? These are the questions we will seek to answer in this lesson. Martin Luther described the work of the Holy Spirit in this way: "The Holy Spirit has called me (talking about all Christians) through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith."

Then you can boldly claim the promises of Galatians 5:18, "*But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.*" And Romans 8:14, "*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*"

Study Questions

1. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is God. Look up the following passages to see what these verses say about the deity of the Holy Spirit.

a. The Holy Spirit is given the names of God. What names are given to the Holy Spirit in the following passages?

- 1 Corinthians 3:16 _____
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 _____
- Hebrews 9:14 _____
- Acts 5:3-4 _____

b. The Holy Spirit has the same attributes of God. What attribute does the Holy Spirit share with God? Look up the following verses to find these attributes:

- John 16:13 _____
- Ephesians 4:30 _____
- Hebrews 9:14 _____
- Psalm 139:7 _____
- 1 Corinthians 2:11 _____



2. What does the Holy Spirit do? Look up the following verses and list the ways the work of the Holy Spirit is described.

- a. Read John 6:63 — It is the Holy Spirit that gives _____ . What a wonderful promise of salvation! (See also Romans 8:11)
- b. Read Titus 3:5-6 — God saves us through the _____ of the Holy Spirit. These verses tell us that the Holy Spirit is active in bringing us to salvation in Christ.
- c. Read John 14:26 — The Holy Spirit is our _____. He teaches us and guides us regarding the Word of God. (See also John 16:13)
- d. Read John 16:8 — The Holy Spirit _____ us of our _____. This work is necessary for growth as a Christian.
- e. Read Romans 8:26 — The Holy Spirit helps us to _____. He gives us the words to say even when we don't know how to talk to God.
- f. Read Romans 8:16 — The Holy Spirit _____ that we are God's children. This gives us assurance of our salvation.
- g. Read Acts 1:8 — The Holy Spirit gives us the _____ to be witnesses of the work of Christ.
- h. Read Acts 4:31 — The Holy Spirit gives us _____ to share the Word of God.
- i. Read 2 Peter 1:20-21 — This verse says "...men moved by the _____ spoke from God." This passage as well as other verses (Hebrews 10:15-16, 1 Corinthians 2:10-13) tells us that the Holy Spirit was active in inspiring God's words, and today the Spirit helps to explain the Bible to us.

3. The Word of God promises that all believers have the Holy Spirit in them (Acts 2:38, 1 Corinthians 3:16). This presence of the Holy Spirit is shown by our actions. Galatians 5:22-24 lists the "fruit" of a life that is guided by the Holy Spirit. List the fruit of the Spirit.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



4. Finally, the Holy Spirit gives Christians special abilities called spiritual gifts. The Bible promises that all Christians receive these gifts. Each gift is important for the work of God's kingdom, and each gift is a blessing from God. The Bible relates these gifts to a human body. A human body consists of different parts such as legs, fingers, eyes and a head. Each body part has a special function, yet they all work together to accomplish tasks. In the same way the gifts given by the Holy Spirit work together to accomplish the tasks that God wants His children to do.
- a. The spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit gives us are listed in a few sections of the Bible. Read these passages and list the spiritual gifts.
- Read Romans 12:6-8 and list 7 spiritual gifts:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - iv. _____
 - v. _____
 - vi. _____
 - vii. _____

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 and list 9 spiritual gifts:

- i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - iv. _____
 - v. _____
 - vi. _____
 - vii. _____
 - viii. _____
 - ix. _____

- Read Ephesians 4:11 and list 5 spiritual gifts:

- i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____



iv. _____

v. _____

- b. These gifts are not to be neglected. Rather, they are to be used faithfully and diligently so that others might be saved. (Read 1 Timothy 4:11-15)
- c. These wonderful gifts of the Spirit are to be used for the purpose of preparing God's people for works of service and to promote unity and maturity (Ephesians 4:12-13). In 1 Peter 4:10-11, Peter gives us three ways these gifts should be used. List them below.
- To s _____ others (verse 10)
 - To give God's g _____ to others (verse 10)
 - To give p _____ to God (verse 11)
- d. Read 1 Corinthians 12-14 for more information about the spiritual gifts.

The Apostles Receive the Holy Spirit at Pentecost: Acts 2:1-4, 16-18:

"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance...but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:

*'And It shall be in the last days' God says,
 'That I will pour out my Spirit on all mankind;
 And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
 And your young men shall see visions,
 And your old men shall dream dreams;
 Even on my bondslaves, both men and women,
 I will in those days pour forth my spirit
 And they shall prophesy.'"*

Assignments to help you prepare for Lesson # 7

- 1) Begin to use the Bible reading guide from lesson two.
- 2) Complete the lesson on *Fellowship* before your next appointment.
- 3) Memorize Hebrews 10:24-25
- 4) Spend more time at church this week and get to know some people—stretch yourself! Don't forget to take notes during the pastor's message!
- 5) Learn to enjoy a Christian friend during the week. Pray with them and talk about Jesus with them.