

## God the Holy Spirit

### Introduction

I. There's a lot of confusion regarding the Holy Spirit with many churches focusing exclusively on Him and many almost ignoring Him altogether.

II. The Spirit's primary role is to bring glory to Jesus and make us more like Jesus  
"The Shy member of the Trinity"

### III. The Trinity

Father: God above us

Son: God with us

Holy Spirit: God inside us

### The Passage

Statement of Faith, Point 7: "We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who came to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide."

#### A. God's Personal Presence

##### 1. Our "Teacher" (John 16:7-15)

- a. He "came to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment"
- b. He guides Christians into truth

##### 2. Our "Helper/Comforter" (Romans 8:14-17; Ephesians 1:13-14)

- a. Enjoying our present status (Romans 8:14-17)  
The Holy Spirit provides an inner witness to the reality that we are now God's children through our faith in Jesus' sacrifice. Through the Holy Spirit, we can experience internally what is ours objectively at the cross.
- b. Anticipating our future glory (Ephesians 1:13-14)  
The Holy Spirit is God's down payment, guaranteeing eternal life  
The Holy Spirit is God's first fruits, giving us a taste of eternal life

##### 3. Our "Guide" (Ro 8:14; Mt 4:1, Acts 10:19, Acts 15:28)

- a. He guides us in specific moments through promptings
- b. He guides our lives in general

#### B. God's Transforming Power

##### 4. He "regenerates" (Ezekiel 36:26-27; John 3:3-8)

"Coming to faith in Christ"

He takes spiritually dead/numb people and wakes them up to God.

##### 5. He "sanctifies" (2 Corinthians 3:17-18; Galatians 5:22-23)

“Becoming more like Christ” (an ongoing process)

Galatians 5:22-23

- a. This is a description of the character of Christ
  - b. These qualities are “fruit” that the Spirit produces  
our job is to surrender to the Spirit, not produce the fruit on our own
  - c. Notice how relational these qualities are  
The Spirit is not just forming a bunch of spiritual giants  
He’s forming a community whose relationships reflect God’s character
6. He “empowers” (1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Acts 4:5-13;)  
“Serving others for the sake of Christ”
- a. Serving within the faith community: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11
  - b. Serving in the larger world community: Acts 4:5-13

### Conclusion

God has given us such a great gift in His Spirit, so let’s thank God for this gift  
Identify and acknowledge the work the Spirit has done in your life and give thanks

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Opening questions: What struck you most about the sermon/the passage? What surprised you? What confused you? What did you disagree with?
2. Based on Romans 8:14-17, discuss the meaning of the following statement and your thoughts on it: The Holy Spirit provides an inner witness to the reality that we are now God’s children through our faith in Jesus’ sacrifice. Through the Holy Spirit, we can experience “internally” and “subjectively” what is ours “objectively” at the cross.
3. As you look at the 6 roles of the Holy Spirit mentioned on Sunday, identify and share some of the ways you’ve seen the Holy Spirit active in your life. And/or, identify one role you wish He would take on more strongly in your life at this time.
4. What would you say if someone came up to you and said, “I’m not sure if I have the Holy Spirit or not”? How would you help that person process and think through that issue?
5. Scripture frequently calls us to do things like: Live by the Spirit, walk by the Spirit, be controlled by Spirit, be filled with the Spirit. What do you think that means practically? How do we actually go about walking/living by the Spirit in our day-to-day lives?