

## Open Sails Part 1 - John 14:15-18 “The Person and Indwelling of the Holy Spirit”

Today we are beginning a brand new series of studies – through the summer – 10 weeks – Open Sails

A) **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT** – Talking about who the Holy Spirit is, and how He desires to Manifest Himself in the Life of a believer/ Church.

B) Taking an in-depth look – Who He is - How He works, Gifts –

1) Hopefully clear up **Some of the many misconceptions** in the Church today.

### “The Person and Indwelling of the Holy Spirit”

C) Read John 14:15-18

*<sup>15</sup>“If you love Me, keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—<sup>17</sup>the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup>I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*

The Subject of the Holy Spirit is one of the most misunderstood and abused subjects in the Church today

A) Often times within the Christian Church the **HOLY SPIRIT** is communicated as this **Electricity / this Power / this Impersonal force**

B) Luke Skywalker – Darth Vader - Luke may the Force.....

C) Christians talk about getting the **Holy Ghost goose Bumps /**

D) Or getting a **Holy Ghost Charge up** – like getting our batteries Charged before we go out witnessing

Now we Understand the Concept of God the Father – most of us Know someone that is a Father – we have had a Father

A) And we understand the **Concept of God the Son** – Jesus healing / forgiving / taking the kids in his arms / dying on cross / Rising again

B) But when it comes to God the **HOLY SPIRIT** – it is a different story

C) In some Christian circles – the **HOLY SPIRIT** is portrayed as **this impersonal Power** – thrown at the audience like a Frisbee - they fall over

1) Never think of throwing God the Father – or Jesus – WHO Wants some Father?

Watch some Christian TV – turn sound off & watch what these people are supposedly doing under the power or inspiration of the **HOLY SPIRIT** – **Nuts Spastic**

A) Crazy weird things are done in the name of the Holy Spirit.

B) **Laughing in the spirit – barking in the spirit** –

1) **Mild mannered Eddie Hill - & My dad** - Eagle calls – in the Spirit

I was 11 and I knew that was weird.

C) **None of that is Biblical** – No in the Bible when people were filled with the Holy Spirit – they resembled Jesus in a greater way

1) **AND THEY CHANGED THEIR WORLD!**

Today as we begin this series we want to start at the Beginning – Look at who is the Holy Spirit and why do we need Him.

A) Two resources for further study – **Living Water by Pastor Chuck Smith and Forgotten God by Francis Chan**

B) The First chapter title in Forgotten God is “I’ve got Jesus why do I need the Holy Spirit?”

C) We want to answer that question today!

Notice in our text the use of the personal pronouns- He/ Him in reference to the Holy Spirit – He abides, you know Him etc.

A) This tells us that the Holy Spirit is a He not an it – not an essence, not a force, not a power.

B) The Holy Spirit supplies us with Power – but The Holy spirit is not a power

### **I. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

A) He is third person of the Triune Godhead.

B) **We are Trinitarians** – we believe the Bible clearly teaches that there is one God who exist in three persons.

1) God the Father – God the Son – God the Holy Spirit.

C) We can't fully comprehend how that works –

Cc) Greater than our human mind can comprehend. – Ice, water, Vapor – Dad, a Son, Husband

1) None of those analogies fully capture the essence of the trinity and seek to oversimplify the MAJESTIC MYSTERY.

D) If there are aspects of God you can't figure out – **that shouldn't frustrate you – that you exhilarate you**

1) Your God is bigger – more complex – more powerful than your finite brain can comprehend.

E) The Doctrine of the Trinity is at the top of that list of Majestic Mysteries about God!

#### Biblical evidence for the trinity

A) Genesis 1:1 **"In the beginning God..."** the word "God" in Hebrew is Elohim a plural noun.

❖ The singular form in Hebrew is El, while the plural is Elohim.

B) Elohim = Compound unity – More than one existing as one.

C) Genesis 1:26 **"God said let Us make man in Our image."**

D) Consider several scriptures that point to this doctrinal truth.

Acts 20:28 **"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."**

❖ **The Church of God**

❖ Which He purchased with His blood – Jesus God the son died

❖ **God the Holy Spirit has made you overseers**

Ephesians 4:4-6

*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

❖ **One spirit – The Holy Spirit**

❖ **One Lord – Jesus is Lord**

❖ **One God and Father**

1 John 5:7

**For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one**

In Acts 5:3,4 the Holy Spirit is actually referred to as God!

A) Acts 5:3,4 <sup>3</sup>But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? <sup>4</sup>While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

#### II. Divine attributes attributed to the HOLY SPIRIT

❖ The HOLY SPIRIT is ETERNAL

A) Heb.9:13, 14 <sup>13</sup>For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

❖ **HOLY SPIRIT is omnipresent** – Everywhere at once – no escaping

PSA 139:7-10 <sup>7</sup>Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

<sup>8</sup> If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.

<sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

<sup>10</sup> Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.

❖ **HOLY SPIRIT is Omnipotent** – All powerful

Luke 1:35 <sup>35</sup>And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

❖ **HOLY SPIRIT is omniscient** – He is all knowing

Jn 14:26 *‘But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*

JN 16:12,13 – *He will guide you into all truth*

So we see that 4 Distinct Divine Attributes are Attributed to the HOLY SPIRIT

### III. DIVINE WORKS ascribed to the Holy Spirit

A) Job 33:4 – **Creation of man** – *The Spirit of God has made me,*

*And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.*

B) 2 Peter 1:20,21 – **The inspiration of the scriptures** <sup>20</sup>*knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup>for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

### IV. Personal characteristics that are ascribed to the Holy Spirit

#### Intelligence is ascribed to the Holy Spirit

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 2:9-16 Searches the things of God and teaches)  
Electricity or a force doesn't have intellect – Movies

#### Emotions are ascribed to the Holy Spirit

- ❖ Romans 15:30 He loves
- ❖ Ephesians 4:30 The Holy Spirit can be grieved.

If you think of the Holy Spirit only as an essence, only as a breeze, only as a power, it is very difficult to develop a meaningful relationship with an essence.

A) If you think of the **Holy Spirit as an impersonal force**, an unintelligent power that permeates the universe,

Aa) you really cannot love Him or call upon Him in your time of need.

#### Personal acts ascribed to the Holy Spirit

- ❖ Acts 5:3,4 He can be lied to
- ❖ Acts 7:51 He can be resisted
- ❖ Acts 9:31 He comforts

B) During a time when the early Church was suffering from great persecution we are told they received the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

1) Term of Affection – Electricity doesn't have the ability to comfort you

❖ **Romans 8:25-29 The Holy Spirit speaks**

Acts 10 Peter on the roof

Acts 10: <sup>19</sup>*While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him.....*

*go with the men to the house of Cornelius*

Acts 13:2 <sup>2</sup>*As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”*

C) Talk more about how in a Later study!

❖ **Romans 8:26 The Holy Spirit prays for us. – Makes intercession**

D) Sounds more like a friend right?

1) A person who cares for you and watches out for you and prays for you.

❖ John 15:26 He testifies of Jesus

❖ John 16:8 He convicts the world of sin, righteousness and coming judgment

So when we put all this together we learn the HOLY SPIRIT – has a Mind / emotions / Intellect / the ability to communicate / Loves/ comforts/ prays/ convicts

A) When I consider Him in that way – it seems Ludicrous to pretend to throw him around like a Frisbee / taping into Him like a light socket

B) **Back to our text- Important insight**

C) **The SCENE:** Upper room on the night before the Crucifixion /

Jesus has just washed their feet- taking the role of the servant / exhorted them to treat each other the same /

A) Given them a New Commandment – Love each other as He has loved them (He shares w/ them that they are all going to forsake him that night)

B) Peter is going to deny Him – (Troubling stuff)

**C) But then He says in ch.14:1 Don't be troubled**  
He tells them that He has to go away to His Father's house to prepare a place for them

- 1) But He is going to come again to receive them to Himself

**D) By this time their heads must be spinning – but notice what Jesus says next v.16-20**

**(pay attention to the language)**

**Jesus says I am not going to leave you as orphans – but I am going to send the Helper – the Spirit of truth**

**A) The World doesn't know Him but you do – because He is w/ you –**

**Why did they know Him?**

**B) The HOLY SPIRIT was in Jesus– since Jesus was w/ them, The Spirit was w/ them**

**C) They lived together for 3 ½ yrs / They had been friends / Which is something that we sometimes fail to realize about Jesus & His Disciples**

- 1) We can have this sort of Austere Perception of Jesus & His Disciples ( **Monks** )

**D) We fail to realize that for 3 ½ yrs they hung out together 24/7 ( **Gospel RD** )**

**We don't picture them like that – but they probably brushed bugs out of Jesus' hair –**

**A) They probably took splinters out of each others fingers & feet / I bet they BURPED ( **We don't think about stuff like that** )**

**B) They spilled things – did Jesus ever knock over a cup? Did Peter ever spill something on Jesus – razed for the rest of the day by the others**

**C) Did they ever have to tell Jesus he had a peiece of Spinach stuck in his teeth**

**(Lord that was a good teaching but .... in your teeth )**

- 1) Imagine all the meals they spent together / all the conversations / the Joking

**D) Imagine the hard time they gave James & John after Jesus called them the *SONS OF THUNDER* – And now here they come .....Thunder !!!!!**

- 1) They laughed together / they cried together they were comrades

**A) They has seen incredible things – walking water/ raising the dead – feeding 5,000**

**C) Issue of taxes – go down to the sea - fish – coin – handy guy to have around**

**D) They spent significant time together – they had come to depend upon His physical presence With THEM!**

**Now He was leaving them – but Not really!**

**A) Jesus says here beginning of John 14 : I am leaving – But V.16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—<sup>17</sup>the Spirit of truth,**

**B) Another of the same kind – Same kind as Himself not someone different**

**C) He says: I will pray that the Father sends another Helper {Then He defines Him as the Spirit of truth!**

**D) But then in V. 18 He says I will not leave you orphans, I will come to you.**

**How was Jesus going to come to them?**

**Person of the Holy Spirit.**

**A) Jesus was & is God – He was w/ them – but now He was going to Be w/ them in a **Different capacity** – Spirit inside of them**

**B) Turn to Ch.16:7 *Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.***

**C) When did this happen? John chapter 20:19-22**

**Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.**

**<sup>21</sup> So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."**

**<sup>22</sup> And when He had said this, He breathed on**

them, and said to them, **“Receive the Holy Spirit.**

C)Indwelt with the Holy Spirit – Conversion.

#### **Indwelt at Conversion:**

❖ Galatians 4:6

Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

**This is where we get the idea of asking Jesus into our hearts!**

A)At conversion- the Holy Spirit resides in the heart of believers

B)Ephesians 3:17 “Christ would dwell in our hearts through faith.”

1)Dwell = Be at home in our hearts – through faith

C)How does that happen? **Through the Holy Spirit**

D)Born again - Born of the Spirit – Born Physically – need to be born spiritually

1)**Place your faith in Jesus – His Spirit comes in you and brings to life your spirit.**

E)According to Galatians 4:6 – In our hearts crying out Abba Father.

❖ 1 Corinthians 3:16

Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

❖ 1 Corinthians 6:19

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

#### **MARKS OF THE NEW COVENANT**

❖ Ezekiel 36:27

"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

❖ EPHESIANS 1:13

**SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE**

SEALED WAS A MARK OF OWNERSHIP – PARCEL ON A SHIP -

**So If you are a Christian today – Faith in Christ God has MARKED YOU – His Spirit inside of You!**

A)THAT MEANS: There should be a distinction in our lives – now from Before we were saved!

B)Romans 8:9 **But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.**

C)If the Spirit of God is dwelling in your life – there should be a change!

D)Francis Chan Basketball analogy – pg 32

This may be a silly illustration, but if I told you I had an encounter with God where He entered my body and gave me a supernatural ability to play basketball, wouldn't you expect to see an amazing improvement in my jump shot, my defense, and my speed on the court? **After all, this is God we're talking about.** And if you saw no change in my athleticism, wouldn't you question the validity of my "encounter"?

**D)Or think of it this way: If you were to say – My Aunt is the nicest person I know**

1)**Some how – God has given me her spirit –**  
2)**Wouldn't you think that you would start to have more of her qualities?**

E)**If the Spirit of Jesus is in us – You would think that we would become more Christ like right?**

**Listen before you get discouraged note this:**

A)The Bible makes it clear – Gal 5 – as long as we are living in these bodies / always going to be a battle

B) There is a battle between our flesh and the Spirit – Make war Contrary to one another.

1)Our flesh wants to do one thing – Our Spirit another - **Spirit willing flesh is weak**

C)But that my friends is why we called this series **Open Sails** – describes perfectly what the Holy Spirit is desiring to do in our lives.

**Ephesians 5:18 – Be continually being filled –**

A)When we talk about being filled with the Holy Spirit or walking with the HOLY SPIRIT

B)Not talking about you getting more of the Holy Spirit – **(He already indwells you. – He is in you.)**

1)Not you getting more of the HOLY SPIRIT – but Him getting more of You!

**C)Sail – Open all the way!**

1)If put faith in Christ - You have the Holy Spirit in you – Not a question

D)The question is how much of you does the HOLY SPIRIT have?

1)Like the wind catching that sail – {Moves the boat – Directs the boat

**When the HOLY SPIRIT gets more of You – When you become surrendered, Yielded, - You Recognize YOUR NEED**

A)Your life can become more controlled by the Holy Spirit

B)Your character starts to be influenced by the Spirit of God!

1)Your Behavior is influenced by the Spirit of God

C)I get tired of hearing Christians **blaming poor behavior on natural tendencies.**

1)I am just naturally a worry wart – I can't help it!

D)I am just naturally quick tempered it is part of my Italian heritage or my Irish heritage, or my Italian Irish combo

**Listen Church the Whole message of the New Covenant is that God's Spirit is in us.**

A)Which means that we are to be moving from the

**Natural to the Supernatural.**

**B)Moving from lives where we react in the flesh – to lives where we are learning how to Respond in the Spirit!**

C)**Our problem:** Many Christians live lives that are independent of the Lord's help 90% of the time.

D)We turn to Him only when we don't know what to do and we have exhausted all our own ideas.

**Precious Church – We need to open the sails –**

A)**Daily live – lives** Yielded to the HOLY SPIRIT/ Calling upon the HOLY SPIRIT / depending upon the HOLY SPIRIT – Calling upon Jesus

D)Learning daily to have the Antenna of our lives tuned to His voice – His conviction –

**Think of it this way: If Jesus himself went to work with you as an invisible friend – In the room –**

A)Do you think you would have the tendency to consult him on everything. – Lord how to do this deal?

Aa)If He came home with you – you get there – wife is in a bad mood – no reason.

**B)Do you think you might say something like – Lord what should I do right now –**

1)Hug her, ignore, offer to take to dinner.

**C)Teenager has an attitude**{ before flying off at the handle – do you think you might – go into the other room and say – Lord what should I do?

**Church He is with us! –His Spirit is inside of us.**

A)He is with us – He is IN US – HE IS FOR US!

B)The Question is are we Yielded to Him?

C)Is the sail of our lives – Open to the Spirit of God

1)How much of us doesn't He actually Have?

D)Is the **Antenna of our hearts** – Tuned into His voice?

1)Recognize His Conviction?

2)Sensitive to His leading?

OPEN THE SAILS –

Not saved – Faith in Christ – Jesus I believe

Are saved – Lord Open the sails -