

Life in the Spirit Series Part 1 The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person Who Helps Us – John 14-16

Tonight we are beginning a series on the Person and work of the Holy Spirit

A) Many Christians today are confused about the HS

AW Tozer said, "The idea of the Holy Spirit to the average church member is so vague as to be non-existent."

B) In fact, some people are even afraid of the Holy Spirit.

C) you can see it when you mention the Holy Spirit.

1) They tense up, and they think thoughts like, **oh, it's one of those kind of churches.**

C) They're just scared about what might happen if you open the door to any movement of the HS

Theologically speaking there are two different extremes when it comes to the Holy Spirit.

A) On one end, you have cessationism that comes from the word cease, to end.

B) A cessationist believes that there is a cessation, or an end of the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit,

1) like we have been seeing in our study of the book of Acts,

C) Cessationists say That stuff doesn't happen anymore.

1) That was relegated to one period of church history, the early church.

D) They needed it. They didn't have the Bible. Now we have the Bible. Now we don't need that.

E) When the Canon of Scripture was completed - the work of the Holy Spirit ceased in the way we see him working in Acts

The problem with being a cessationist is the Bible.

A) The Bible is filled with teachings, instructions, examples, OT and NT of the working of the Holy Spirit.

B) For example, the Old Testament mentions the Holy Spirit 90 different times, with several different designations.

C) The New Testament mentions the Holy Spirit or refers to Him 260 times, with even more designations.

So you can't neglect the Holy Spirit since the Scripture is full of the Holy Spirit,

A) from beginning to end, from Genesis to Revelation.

B) In Genesis, chapter 1, verse 2, the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters,

C) to the very last chapter of the Bible, Revelation 22, the Spirit and the bride say come.

1) And everything in between has hundreds and hundreds of instances of speaking about the Holy Spirit.

D) So on one hand, you have cessationists.

On the other extreme, you have sensationalists, and they're all about the Holy Spirit.

A) You mention the Holy Spirit to this group, they start getting excited

B) **Finally, this church gets it.** Give me some Holy Ghost. They can be fun to be around. - OPEN

C) They're all about the baptism of the Spirit. They're all about the anointing of the HS

1) in fact, they even say it kind of weird. Do you have the anointing?

D) Problem - For this group, if there is no phenomenon happening in the church,

1) To them the Holy Spirit just isn't working.

E) There has to be a certain kind of energy and a certain kind of pep that the church works itself up into.

1) They often need lots of noise and lots of pep, or the Holy Spirit isn't working.

I love Pastor Chuck Smith's thoughts on this- **"The role of the Holy Spirit is not to blow the whistle but to move the train."**

Sometimes with those in the Sensationalist camp - there is a lot of whistle blowing -

A)But the train isn't going anywhere

B)There is a lot of hype but no permanent transformation

C)What we desperately need is balance.

Here is how those two extremes get communicated here at Calvary Vista

A)Had people come here- CV is too Charismatic for me - Talk of being yielded to the HS

B)Response times Magnify nights - uncomfortable

C)Another person - This church is too dead

D)Listen: We like to follow what the Lord said in his word - All things done decently and in order

One of the things we are going to see in this series is every time the body of Christ comes together here - or elsewhere

A)The Holy Spirit is working - sometimes it is visible - other times it is more behind the scenes

B)My hope is when we are done with this series - you will have a greater understanding of how HE is working

C)And how He wants to work in and through your life

So over the course of this series we are going to be Talking about who the Holy Spirit generally

A)What he does generally and specifically and how we are to respond to Him

B)We will talk about - The role He plays in the world and in the church -

1)How He give gifts to followers of Jesus

C)How those gifts are to function and operate in the church.

Where do we start? Genesis 1 first mention - at Creation? Hovering...

A)Matthew 1:18 first mention in the NT? Mary was found to be with child by the HS?

B)John 14 - The scene final night - last words, - Jesus introduces the idea of the Holy Spirit to his disciples

¹⁵“If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. - **love not ORPHANS**

²⁵“These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 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.

John 15 - Same teaching:

v.26 But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

John 16 Same teaching

⁵“But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 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. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

Now here is what I want to do tonight -

I want to make 3 statements about the Holy Spirit and then tie them all together

- #1 The Holy Spirit is a Person
- #2 The Holy Spirit is Divine
- #3 The Holy Spirit Helps us

A)Big idea: The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person who Helps us.

B)How many of you think you need all the help you can get to live your Christian life?

1)I'm, I'm with you. We need help.

C)The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person who comes to help us.

1)So now let's just take that apart and look at it.

First of all, the Holy Spirit is a Person and a Person has personality.

A)NOW one of the things we immediately notice in the Words of Jesus is this:

B)He doesn't say when the Holy Spirit comes, "it" will.

1)He uses personal pronouns, "He will," /Him, not it.

C)And that is because the Holy Spirit is a Person.

Often times within the Christian Church the Holy Spirit is communicated as This Impersonal force

A)Luke Skywalker - May the Force be with you Luke

Aa)or Like electricity -People talk about getting the Holy Ghost goose Bumps /

B)Or they talk about getting a Holy Ghost Charge up

1)like getting our batteries Charged before we go out witnessing

C)In Some circles – the Holy Spirit is seen as this impersonal Power – thrown at the audience like a Frisbee -

1)they fall over

D)One “tele-evangelist” used to toss his coat like a bull fighter did his cape

1)Others would blow on the Crowd

E)Sometimes I will watch Christian TV with the sound off - crazy - what are those people doing

Now here is the thing – we would never think throwing God the Father or Jesus at the Crowd

A)But for some reason people talk about God the HS in that way

B)Need to understand -The Holy Spirit is a Person.

Notice the personal ACTIONS ascribed to the Holy Spirit by Jesus

- "The Holy Spirit will teach you all things." - John 14:26

An impersonal force can't teach you

Notice the personal ACTIONS ascribed to the Holy Spirit by Jesus

- He will testify of Me."- John 15:26
- The Holy Spirit will convict the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment. -John 16:8
- The Holy Spirit will guide you into all truth.- John 16:13
- The Holy Spirit will tell you of things to come - John 16:13

The Holy Spirit prays for us Romans 8:26

We see The Holy Spirit speaks Acts 8:25-29, Acts 10:19, Acts 13:2

Now I don't know about you – but I have never heard electricity speak before –ear to the light switch

A)the personal ACTIONS ascribed to the Holy Spirit by Jesus

B)Personal ATTRIBUTES ascribed to the Holy Spirit in scripture

- The Holy Spirit has an intellect - 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

B)HE THINKS - HE HAS A MIND -

Personal ATTRIBUTES ascribed to the Holy Spirit in scripture

- The Holy Spirit can be grieved - Ephesians 4:30 - He has emotions
- The Holy Spirit can be insulted - Hebrews 10:29
- The Holy Spirit can be lied to - Acts 5:3,4

➤ The Holy Spirit can be resisted Acts 7:51

So what we see here is the HS – has Mind / Emotions / Intellect / the ability to communicate /

A)When I consider Him in that way –

B)it seems Ludicrous to pretend to throw him around like a Frisbee /

C)Or to tap into Him like a light socket

100 years ago, RA Torrey, who wrote one of the best books on the Holy Spirit, Torrey said this "The Holy Spirit is not a blind, impersonal influence or power that comes into our lives to illuminate, sanctify, and empower them. No, He is immeasurably more than that, He is a holy Person who comes to dwell in our hearts." RA Torrey

D)So here is the cool thing - because he is a person -and has a personality

1)We can have a personal relationship with him

E)You can't have a personal relationship with a force.

1)You can't have a personal relationship with electricity

The thing we should be pursuing is not how I can get more of the HS spirit's power in my life

A)But instead - How can the HS get more of a hold in my life - more of me - that is the issue.

B)So the Holy Spirit is a Person. That's the first statement in that sentence.

Second statement, not only is the Holy Spirit a Person, the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person.

A)And I want to show you why this is so important, the Holy Spirit is Divine.

B)He's a divine person, and we have to get this.

1)He is the 3rd person of the Triune God head -

C)The Word trinity is not found in the Bible - but the truth of the Triune God head definitely is

D)The Triune Godhead is made up of God the father - God the Son - and God the Holy Spirit

1)3 distinct beings - that are somehow - one

I will be honest - I don't understand the trinity at all ok -He is bigger than my pea brain

A)If God were small enough for me to figure out with my little brain - not BIG enough to worship

B)I don't understand the TRINITY - but I believe it because

➤ The Father is referred to as God in the Bible

➤ Jesus the Son is referred to as God in the Bible

➤ And the HS is referred to as God in the Bible

C)Some people want to deny the idea of the trinity because the word trinity isn't in the Bible.

1)Neither is the phrase the 2nd coming of Jesus Or the rapture

D)But we see the concepts are clearly talked about in scripture.

E)We see clearly in scripture the teaching that the Holy Spirit is God

Let's consider some Divine Attributes contributed to the Holy Spirit

#1 He is called God - Acts 5:3-4 - Scene

Acts 5:3-4 ³But 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? ⁴While 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."

He's not like some lesser being, like an angel, that appears in the OT

He is eternal - Hebrews 9:14/ John 14:16

A)In Hebrews 9:14 the Holy Spirit is referred to as the eternal Spirit

B)And in John 14:16 Jesus said: -

"I will pray the Father, and He will give you another helper that He may abide with you forever."

The Holy Spirit is seen as omnipresent.

A) You know what omnipresent means? He's everywhere, all places at the same time.

B) He is omnipresent. He's in Vista, OCSD, SD, Israel all over the world

C) The Holy Spirit is omnipresent.

David said Psalm 139 "Where can I go from Your Spirit?" Where can I flee from Your presence?

A) Now, that's a rhetorical question. What's the answer to that?

B) Where can you flee from God? Nowhere, you can't get away from him. Why?

1) Because he's omnipresent.

C) Where can I go from Your Spirit? Nowhere, Why?

1) Because he's omnipresent.

The Holy Spirit is seen as omnipotent.

A) Now there is a word that means what? All powerful, "omni" "potent."

B) He can do anything, and He is seen in creation. GENESIS 1

1) I mentioned it a few moments ago, "And the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters" in that initial stage of creation.

C) Also Job, in Job 33:4, said, "The Spirit of God has made me."

D) Gabriel to Mary - how she was going to be Divinely impregnated - Luke 1:35 ³⁵And 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."

E) Power to raise the dead- Romans 8:11

¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Question, Does it really matter that I see the Holy Spirit as a person and as God?

A) Yes, it does, and here's why.

B) If you don't understand who it is who is living inside of you -

1) You will be even more likely to look to him listen to him - rely upon him

C) Guys this is mind blowing - BOOM

The Spirit of the living God is dwelling inside of your life! - Let that sink in

A) The Spirit that was involved in creating the world

B) The Spirit that brought Jesus forth from the grave is living inside of you and me

C) Paul spoke of in 2 Timothy of believers in the last days having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof.

D) Many Christians try to live the Christian life and walk in their own strength -

1) Because they are clueless to who is living inside of them.

So the Holy Spirit is a person. The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person.

A) The third statement that ties the sentence together, the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person who helps us.

B) Note that Jesus calls the Holy Spirit the Helper

C) The word "helper"-- some of you will remember the term-- is the Greek word, "parakletos,"

1) If you've ever heard of the term "paraclete,"

D) Comes from the Greek word "parakletos," which is translated "comforter" or "helper."

1) It literally means, one who is called alongside to help you,

That's the Holy Spirit.

A) Listen I have been walking with Jesus now for 50 years

B) The longer I walk with Jesus the more I am aware that I need help -

1) He has done a work in me - I have grown - he has transformed me in so many ways

C) But friends - I still have a long way to go.

D)Praise God - Jesus said - I haven't left you as orphans -

1)Sent the Helper - HS INSIDE OF US

Tim Downs once said, "Watches, cars, and Christians can all look chromed and shiny. But watches don't tick, and cars don't go, and Christians don't make a difference without insides."

E)And he said, "For a Christian, that's the Holy Spirit."

Wake up tomorrow and realize, I have a helper.

A)When you're out there and you go, I don't have many friends, I need a Helper. You have one.

B)Not that you don't need OTHER believers, but you have a Helper.

1)Learn to call on Him and rely on Him.

But I want you to catch something else that Jesus says here that is so cool but easy to miss. JN 14:16
¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

A)In the Greek language, the word "another" has two possibilities.

1)Two different words for another - Let me explain.

B)There is one word heteros" means another of a completely different kind.

C)But then there is The word "allos" means another of the same kind.

D)Which word did Jesus use Heteros - different - or allos - SAME?

Jesus used the word allos - just like me - the Spirit of God in me is now going to reside in you.

A)What he means when he says - in ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you

B)He doesn't say - I am not going to leave you orphans I will send you someone else to fill in

C)NO Jesus says I will come to you - just in a different way - MY SPIRIT

D)Why Jesus said it is better that I go away- In his earthly body - he could be at 2 places at one time

If some of the Disciples were in Galilee and the others where in Jerusalem

A)In his earthly body - he had to choose who he was going to be with

B)But now He can be with all of us at the same time

1)Through His Spirit residing in us

C)Think of this: The Holy Spirit is to you as good a Helper as Jesus was to the apostles.

D)How's that for help?

Something else about this. You have a permanent Helper. - He's not going anywhere John 14:16. "I will pray the Father, He will give you another Helper," that He may abide with you for 10 years.

two decades.? Until you get really crusty and gnarly.

No Forever, He'll abide with you forever. He's a permanent Helper.

A)He is going to be IN you until his work in you is done - that means until you get to heaven

B)Something else, He is a reliable Helper. Verse 17, "He is called the Spirit of Truth.

C)He cannot lie. And he never leads you to lie."

So here's something. How can you tell a person is filled with the Holy Spirit?

A)Have you ever thought of it this way? They tell the truth. He's the Spirit of Truth.

B)The Spirit of truth is living inside of them.

C)They are becoming more Holy - because the Holy Spirit is living inside of them

Think about this: He is not called the Loving spirit - though he is.

A)Love is the chief by product of the fruit of the Holy Spirit

B)He is not called the gracious spirit - but he is gracious

C)He is called the Holy Spirit - Holiness is His primary attribute

D)He is seeking to make us more - Holy - “Be holy for I am holy”

1)Seeking to be who we are in Christ

We will talk more about How the Holy Spirit seeks to work in us in coming weeks

A)He is our Helper - he is a permanent helper

B)He is a reliable helper

He is an exclusive Helper.

A)Notice that Jesus said, V.17"Whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him."

B)Isn't it interesting that the worldly people you know say something to the effect of, *well, if I can't see it, I won't believe it. If I could only see it, then I'd believe it.*

C)Nah, probably not. That's just their little straw man that they throw up, their little excuse.

But Jesus said, they can't receive the Holy Spirit.

A)They don't know Him. They can't see Him, but you know Him.

B)Paul said in 1 Cor 2 that to the natural man - the things of God are foolishness - they are spiritual

C)You need to be spiritually alive to understand them -

Born again - the Spirit comes to live inside of you

A)Brings your spirit alive - suddenly the things of God begin to make sense

B)The Bible comes alive - you can't get enough

C)Your spiritual appetite just starts to grow - more you feed it - the more hungry you get -

1)So beautiful

Stop there tonight - One final thought this is something the Holy Spirit is doing in us every day.

Galatians 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!”

Seeking to draw you into Intimacy!