

FOUNDATIONS

Track One : Believer to Disciple

Lesson 11 : The Holy Spirit

This lesson is designed to teach us about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. We cover aspects of the Holy Spirit's work such as being filled with the Spirit, walking in the Spirit, being led by the Spirit and the baptism in the Holy Spirit.



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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New King James Version.

1. The Holy Spirit is a Person

The analogy of "wind".

The Hebrew and Greek words for "Spirit" literally mean wind.
Hebrew "ruach" = "breath; air; strength; wind; breeze;"
Greek "pneuma" = "the wind", "breath", "to breathe, blow"

Wind - we do different things
We breath air (wind)
We feel the wind
We can generate energy from the wind
We can use the wind to sail
We can pull in to the wind to fly an airplane

In a similar manner, we can just remain at the level where we "breathe" the wind of the Spirit or we can go further and learn to pull into the wind of the Spirit and fly into greater realms. There is a lot we can experience of the "wind" of the Spirit.

Though the words used in Scripture are translated "wind", we must always remember that the Holy Spirit is a Person, a real Spirit-Being. He is God, co-equal with the Father and the Son, and to be equally honored and worshipped.

2. The Work of the Holy Spirit In The Life of A Believer

2.1. At The New Birth

Born again by water and the Spirit John 3:1-8

Water represents natural birth. Could also signify new birth through the power of the Word, since water is a symbol of the Word of God. 1 Peter 1:23
John 15:3 Ephesians 5:26

Born of the regenerative work of the Spirit Titus 3:4,5

The Spirit of sonship has been sent into our hearts Galatians 4:6,7

The Holy Spirit give us the "assurance" of our sonship/salvation Romans 8:14-16

2.2. In Every Day Life

(only a few are mentioned here. There are many more in Scripture)

Crucifying the flesh Romans chapters 6,7,8 Galatians chapter 5, Galatians 6:8

Temples of the Spirit 1 Corinthians 3:16,17 1 Corinthians 6:19,20

Changes us into Christ-likeness 2 Corinthians 3:18

Walking in the Spirit / Walking filled with the Spirit

Walking in the Spirit / Being filled with the Spirit Ephesians 5:18-21,
Galatians 5: 16-24

The Fruit of the Spirit (Christ-like virtues) Galatians 5:22,23

Revelatory work of the Spirit

Knowledge of the things prepared for us 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

Guides us into all truth John 16:13

2.3. Being Led By The Spirit

Being Led by the Spirit Romans 8:14-16

Conscience bearing witness with the Holy Spirit Romans 9:1

How to test what I feel is the “leading of the Spirit”:

- The Spirit and the Word agree 1 John 5:7
- Is Jesus glorified? John 16:13
- Is it righteous?
- Do other godly believers bear witness to this

3. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit - is empowering to be a witness for Jesus
Matthew 3:11

After His resurrection, Jesus met with the disciples, breathed on them and they were born again John 20:21,22

He then told them to wait for the baptism of the Holy Spirit Luke 24:48,49
Acts 1:4,5,8

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is distinct from the New Birth experience.
The outpouring of the Holy Spirit or the baptism in the Holy Spirit is for all believers.

Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-4, 14-18, 38,39

Acts 8:5-21

Acts 9:17,18 (1 Corinthians 14:18)

Acts 10:44-48

Acts 19:1-7

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit or the baptism in the Holy Spirit is accompanied by supernatural manifestations - praying in other tongues being the most common.

What is the difference between the indwelling of the Spirit and the baptism of the Spirit?

John 4:13,14 John 7:37-38

4. The Benefits of Praying in the Spirit

(Please encourage people to take copies of the APC Publication on the benefits of praying in tongues and study it)

(Only mention these points. Please do not turn to these verses as we wont have time to do so)

1. Praying without boundaries - praying the mysteries of God 1 Corinthians 14:2
2. Praying according to God's perfect will Romans 8:26,27
3. Helps overcome the weaknesses of the flesh Romans 8:26 Matthew 3:11,12 The baptism in fire at a personal level has to do with the burning up of the chaff, the things of the flesh.
4. Personal edification - builds you up spiritually 1 Corinthians 14:2 Jude 1:20 Ephesians 3:16
5. Rest and refreshing Isaiah 28:11,12 (1 Corinthians 14:21)
6. Another way to praise and magnify God Acts 10:46
7. Enables your spirit to receive the mysteries (hidden secrets) of God for your own life. Very often the meaning of what you are saying is conveyed to your own spirit as you are praying. 1 Corinthians 2:7-16 1 Corinthians 14:2
8. Helps stir up the gifts of God within you 2 Timothy 1:6 - being the most basic spiritual gift, when you stir yourself up in this area.

5. Application

- 1, How can you grow in your relationship with the Holy Spirit?

6. Reflection

- 1, Are there areas in my life, where I need to depend more on the Spirit's help, to see change and transformation? What are some of these? Begin praying/talking about these to the Holy Spirit and seek His work in those areas.