



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Part 1

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The Holy Spirit is a person. He is powerful, but He is also personal.

On a scale of 1-10, how well do you think you know the Holy Spirit?

Unfortunately, there are many people, believers included, who don't really know anything about the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:1–2 (NLT) - "While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions until he reached Ephesus, on the coast, where he found several believers. 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?' he asked them. 'No,' they replied, 'we haven't even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.'"

- The Holy Spirit is best understood when experienced.
- You will never fully know the Spirit by reading about or debating Him. You need to experience Him.
- The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, and our relationship with Him is vital to Christian living.

Romans 8:9 (NLT) - "But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.)"

What it means to have the Holy Spirit living in us, with us, and through us.

1. THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS _____.

Read Romans 8:1–4

Freedom starts with forgiveness.

Romans 8:5 (NLT) - "Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit."

- Sin doesn't have to have power over you. The same Holy Spirit who drew you to Christ lives in you to help you overcome the things that want to steal your freedom.

Freedom is sustained by the Spirit.

- It's one thing to know you've been set free; it's another thing to live and walk in that understanding.
- The enemy of your soul understands the power of a person living in freedom, so he will try everything possible to keep you from living in that reality.

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT) - "Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere."

Freedom is strengthened by your daily experiences with the Spirit.

- **Your daily experience in the Spirit gives you an understanding of God's mysteries.**

1 Corinthians 2:10 (NLT) - "But it was to us that God revealed these things by His Spirit. For His Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets."

- **Your daily experience in the Spirit gives you enlightenment to Scripture.**

John 16:13 (NLT) - "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future."

- **Your daily experience in the Spirit gives you the opportunity to connect with a community of faith.**

Read Acts 2:42–47

Where do you need to experience these types of freedom?

2. THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS _____.

Romans 8:6–8 (NLT) - “So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God’s laws, and it never will. That’s why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God.”

- Peace of mind comes from the Holy Spirit.

Peace Thieves:

- Uncontrollable circumstances
- Unchangeable people
- Unanticipated problems

How does the Holy Spirit bring peace?

The Holy Spirit helps you accept what you can’t control.

Read John 14:26–27

The Holy Spirit helps you trust God’s loving care.

Isaiah 26:3 (NLT) - “You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!”

The Holy Spirit helps you surrender to God’s control.

Psalms 119:165 (NLT) - “Those who love your instruction have great peace and do not stumble.”

- When we live in obedience to God rather than struggling against Him, we have peace in our hearts and live in His protection.

3. THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS _____.

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NLT) - “May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

- The fellowship of the Holy Spirit means the Holy Spirit wants to be our friend. Friendship involves sharing our lives in communion with Him. It’s opening the deepest parts of ourselves to the influence and direction of God’s Spirit.
- This fellowship helps us to avoid the sins against the Spirit and develop the character traits that reflect the fruit of the Spirit.

Luke 11:13 (NIV) - “If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Does knowing that the Holy Spirit wants to be your friend help you to be open to a relationship with Him? How can you develop a stronger friendship with the Holy Spirit?

Open your heart to the Holy Spirit. Invite Him into your life by simply asking Him to come in and have fellowship with you. He won’t force His way into your life but will come in if you invite Him.