

# Lesson 3

## The Holy Spirit in the Life of Christ

### Weekly Exercise Reminder

Last week we saw the Holy Spirit's role in creation – “the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.” Genesis 1:2

Connecting with God's creation is another way of touching our spirits with the Spirit of God. Spend at least 10 minutes every day this week in nature. Go outside and sit in the grass, or watch the sunset or sunrise. Again, be intentional about noticing and really absorbing God's creation. Remember that these exercises are not just something on your list to be checked off – these are special times for your spirit to meet with the Holy Spirit!

1. Read about the announcement of the birth of Jesus to Mary in Luke 1:26-38. What strikes you about this passage?
  
2. Find a verse in this passage that describes the conception of Jesus. How did the conception of Jesus take place?
  
3. What was the attitude of Mary in this passage? What do you learn from Mary about having an attitude that welcomes the Spirit of God to work in your life, even when it doesn't make any sense and/or you risk your reputation?
  
4. From Luke 1:39-44, how was the Holy Spirit involved when Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John, recognized the Lord?

*“You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed by the devil; for God was with Him.”*

*Acts 10:38*

5. Simeon was one of the first people to verify that Jesus was the Messiah when Jesus was only 41 days old. How did Simeon know this and why was he at the temple that day? See Luke 2:21-35.
  
6. Read the Gospel accounts of the baptism of Jesus in Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22 and John 1:29-34. Discuss what you learn, especially focusing upon the role of the Holy Spirit.
  
7. From John 3:34 can you quantify how the Father gave the Spirit to the Son?
  
8. What does John the Baptist teach about Jesus in Luke 3:16?
  
9. Luke 4:1-14 tells us about the temptations of Jesus in the wilderness. Focus on Luke 4:1 and 14. Discuss the activity of the Holy Spirit in these verses.
  
10. Who anointed Jesus for His ministry according to Acts 10:38? How does this verse describe the ministry of Jesus while He was on the earth?
  
11. Jesus announces His ministry in Luke 4:14-30. This is where he quotes from the passage in Isaiah 61:1-2 that we looked at in an earlier lesson. His Jewish audience knew that this passage was about the coming Messiah. What was He claiming, and what was the reaction of the crowd in the synagogue? Who did He credit with His ability to preach and minister?

13. In Matthew 12:22-28 Jesus healed a demon-possessed man who was blind and dumb. This demonstration of power was undeniable and amazed the masses of people. The Pharisees tried to explain that His power was from Satan. Who did Jesus explain was the source of His power and the implications of this?

14. Jesus operated in the fullness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Match His actions with a particular gift.

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| ___ Prophecy                                       | A. Luke 10:1-13     |
| ___ Miracles                                       | B. Matthew 21:18-22 |
| ___ Healings                                       | C. John 11:32-44    |
| ___ Words of Knowledge<br>(supernatural knowledge) | D. Mark 9:14-26     |
| ___ Words of Wisdom<br>(direction from God)        | E. John 1:45-51     |
| ___ Discernment of spirits<br>(demonic vs. godly)  | F. Luke 4:14-15     |
| ___ Faith  | G. Luke 4:43 -44    |
| ___ Teaching                                       | H. Matthew 17:27    |
| ___ Exhortation<br>(encouragement)                 | I. John 9:1-12      |
| ___ Evangelism                                     | K. Luke 18:31-34    |

15. What do the following verses teach about the resurrection of Jesus Christ in Romans 1:4, 8:10 -11, and I Peter 3 : 18?

16. Write a sentence or two summing up the work of the Holy Spirit in the earthly life of Christ.

## Weekly Exercise for Our Spirits

When Jesus came out of the desert after 40 days of fasting, his body was weak and needed to be restored. However, from that moment on His spirit seemed strengthened as He began His powerful ministry: “And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district.” Luke 4:14

Fasting from something that our bodies enjoy (a specific food, alcohol, etc.) and/or fasting from something our souls enjoy (a tv show, a genre of reading material like pop magazines, etc.) may strengthen our spirits. This week choose something your body or soul craves and fast from it. Each time the craving arises, hold “fast” to the Lord and thank the Holy Spirit for being with you and helping you remain steadfast.

## Lecture Notes: