

Disc 104 - The Holy Spirit - Luk 11:13

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We're following the Discipleship Workbook
from Family Discipleship Ministries
(download that at WordByMail.COM)

We began with "Who is Jesus Christ?"
where we made clear - our need for salvation

Then we looked at what really is "The Abundant Life"
& found out it's all about Unbroken Fellowship with God

& last week - in "The Fatherhood of God" - we looked at how God
uses "tools" to mold & shape us into His Image,

& NOW - we need to look at the Power God has given us,
to both "Live The Abundant Life"
& "Be Transformed" into His Image

We've got to learn to live - in the POWER SOURCE

The Supernatural Power available to every Christian
to be Transformed OUT OF Destruction
& INTO the Abundant Life of Fellowship with God

That POWER SOURCE, in the Christian Life,
is the Person of the Holy Spirit

Let's Pray

We have at least 17 msgs available on the Holy Spirit

- 2 part - Holy Spirit overview
- 3 part - Under His Influence series
- 12 part - Holy Spirit series

Please - **ask W-B-M** for these series,
and really **study** them - please **get to know** the Holy Spirit

Also, Two KEY BOOKS I'd recommend are

- 1) Under His Influence - Lloyd Pulley
 - 2) Living Water - Chuck Smith
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Since I just referenced **17** different **msg's**
& **2 books** on the Person of the Holy Spirit

Obviously we can't do a **complete study** here today

& so our goal today is to simply do two things:

- 1) Understand **WHO** the Holy Spirit is
- 2) Understand the incredible **WORK** He desires to do in our lives

Unfortunately there is much **confusion** over **WHO** the Holy Spirit is
& I'm talking about **INSIDE** the church

Some Christians view Him as "**THE FORCE**"
like an intangible "**Essence**"

Some are confused by the term "**Holy Ghost**"
& they see Him kind of like "**Casper the Friendly Ghost**"

Some Christians associate the Holy Spirit
with **Extreme Emotionalism**
& "**Swinging from the Chandeliers**"

BUT - **Please Remember** this about the Holy Spirit

IF your **spiritual enemy** wanted to keep you **from**
the **POWER SOURCE** of true Life **Transformation**

Don't you **think** one of his **primary tactics** would be
to **sew confusion** about **WHO** our **POWER SOURCE** is?

Guys - You can have the **biggest, grandest, strictest**
RELIGION there is - **WITHOUT** the Holy Spirit

& you can have **big CHURCHES & big LITURGY** (*religious ceremony*)

But you **CANNOT HAVE** a **Life Transforming Relationship** with God -
WITHOUT the Person of the Holy Spirit

So - let's start with the basics

The Holy Spirit is

NOT "***The Force***" - as in "***an Essence***"

NOT a "***Ghost***" - in the sense that we think of

NOT just for ***Emotional Extreme's*** & Antics

HE IS GOD !!

The Holy Spirit is a **PERSON**
& He is the **Person of GOD!**

The Holy Spirit **is equal** in **Quality & Nature**
as The **FATHER**, & The **SON**

Here is a good definition of WHO the Holy Spirit is;

“The Holy Spirit is the primary member of the Godhead at work in the world today”

When we pray that GOD would **WORK** in our life
to TRANSFORM us
to HEAL us - to COMFORT us

The Specific Person of the Godhead Who **does** those things
is the Person of the Holy Spirit

“The Holy Spirit is the primary member of the Godhead at work in the world (& your life) today”

Our Emphasis thruout this series is
living in “Life Changing Fellowship with God”

& you **CANNOT** do that - without the Person of the Holy Spirit
living with Full Reign in your life

So - We've got to know WHO He is
& We've got to know WHAT He does

& a great place to start is in Jn CH 14

Jn 14 is part of the Last Supper Discourse
the critical final teachings before the Arrest & Crucifixion

& after Jesus washes the disciples feet in Ch 13
in Ch 14 He tells them He's going away

& after the disciples freak out - & Jesus calms them down

He tells them in Jn 14:15-18 - ESV

15 *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*

16 *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,*

17 *even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*

18 *"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*

There are **so many** great **truths** here - I could **teach** this for **weeks** but let's **just look** at the **Key** points

#1) (V.15) Obedience is the sign that you *really love Jesus*

But we'll **have to save** that one for later

#2) in V.16 we see the **entire TRINITY** working together

Jesus intercedes on our behalf to the **Father**

Who sends "**Another Helper**" (*that's all three*)

& then, especially notice - **Jesus says in V.16**

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

& then He says in V.18

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you

Clearly **tying Himself** - to **US** - in the Person of **the Holy Spirit**

But **let's focus** on the phrase "**Another Helper**"

it's the **classic description** of the Holy Spirit

In the **GREEK** it is "Allos Pa-RAK-lee-tos"

It means **LITERALLY**

"One of the same kind & quality, called alongside to help"

THIS is exactly **WHO** the Holy Spirit **is**

One who is **equal** in the **Godhead** in every way,
called to come alongside us to **HELP**

To **BE** Our **POWER** to Walk with God

To **BE** Our **POWER** to Live the Transformed Life

Then - the **#3** truth in these vs's is in **V.17**

17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells WITH you and will be IN you.

These are the first **TWO** - of **THREE** levels of Relationship
we have with the **Holy Spirit**

Just as we have an "Increasing Relationship" with **Jesus Christ**,
as we know Him better

So we have an "Increasing Relationship" with the **Holy Spirit**,
as we know **HIM** better

By way of comparison - I think of my son-in-law - JOSH

if a person **comes** to this church,
they know me in a **certain way**

if they become a **friend** of our family
they know me in an **increasing way**

if they **MARRY** my daughter,
they know me in an even **greater increasing way**

& it's the same in our relationship **w/ Jesus Christ**

As we go from **casual knowledge** about Him
to a real intimate **daily relationship** with Him,
we **know Him** better & better

& so it is with the Person of the **Holy Spirit**

Again **Jn 14:17** says **FIRST**, the Holy Spirit is **WITH YOU**

Do you know that unless the **Holy Spirit** is with you,
you **wouldn't** even be in **church** this morning

Our **SIN NATURE** (left alone) does **NOT** seek God

It takes the person of the **Holy Spirit** **WITH US**,
for us to **even begin** to seek God

& **SECOND** - V.17 says the Holy Spirit will be **IN YOU**
which means He will **DWELL** (live) in your life

Jesus says to His disciples - He **WILL BE in you**
because Jesus had **not** yet **finished** His work yet
so that the **Holy Spirit** could rightly **DWELL** In Us

But - **AFTER** the resurrection - over in **Jn CH 20**
when the **disciples** were **scared** & **hiding** behind locked doors

Jn 20:19 says - . . . *Jesus came & stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you"*

& then we read in Jn 20:21-22 - ESV

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

This is the "**IN**" Relationship

when **the disciples** were able to **RECEIVE** the Holy Spirit

& now - **ALL** of Jesus' disciples **RECEIVE** the Holy Spirit

when the **Receive Jesus** as their Savior & Lord

That's why Paul says in 1Cor 3:16 - ESV

16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

& again in 1Cor 6:19 - ESV

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

WAIT A MINUTE !!!

*(if you are a believer) - The **Almighty God** of the Universe
in the Person of the Holy Spirit - LIVES in YOU!*

That should absolutely **BLOW YOUR MIND !!!**

God **DWELLS** in **YOU** - in the Person of the **Holy Spirit**

In fact - **your body** is His Temple

Watchman Nee - Whose writings **I DON'T recommend** in General
but who did have a **Great Understand**
of the **Indwelling PERSON** of the Holy Spirit

Watchman Nee

*Do you know my friends, that the Spirit within you is very God?
Oh that our eyes were opened to see the greatness of God's gift!
Oh that we might realize the vastness of the resources secreted in
our own hearts! I could shout with joy as I think, the Spirit who
dwells within me is no mere influence, but a living Person; He is
very God. The infinite God is within my heart!*

THAT is the Supernatural **POWER of GOD**
that *Every Christian Receives*
when they are **BORN AGAIN**

In fact - **in Jn Ch 3** Jesus describes being **BORN AGAIN**
as being **BORN of the SPIRIT**

& **we know**, from many other scriptures, that **the Holy Spirit**
comes to **DWELL** in every Christian **when** they receive **Christ**

HOWEVER - *is there* an **Additional Relationship Level**,
that we can have with the **Holy Spirit** ??

YES !!

& we **see it** by continuing to *follow the relationship*
the **Disciples** had with the **Holy Spirit**

Again - back in Jn 14:17 Jesus said

. . . You know him (the Holy Spirit), for he dwells with you and will be in you.

& we've seen **BOTH** the WITH YOU Relationship
& the IN YOU relationship

But **then** - we find the **THIRD** level of Relationship with the Holy Spirit
in the Beginning of **ACTS**

Acts 1:4-5 - ESV

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me;

5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

The same Disciples - who already had the WITH & IN relationships

Were told by Jesus to WAIT in Jerusalem
to **BE BAPTISED** with the Holy Spirit

& then - a few Vs's later - in **Acts 1:8**

Just a **MOMENT** before Jesus **ascended** into heaven

He **said** to His disciples

Acts 1:8 - ESV

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Here's our **THIRD** Relationship

You will receive POWER when the Holy Spirit has Come Upon you

& Man, THAT is what we need

We need **the POWER**, that comes
from the Holy Spirit coming **UPON US**

So - There are the **3 relationship levels** we have with the Holy Spirit

FIRST - He is **WITH** us, *leading us to salvation*

SECOND - He is **IN** us, when *we are Born Again*

THIRD - He comes **UPON** us, for *POWER to live for Him*

& I sincerely **PRAY** that **EACH ONE** of you
would experience **EACH ONE** of these three relationships

Because we need **EACH** of these **LEVELS** of Relationship
in order to be Truly **TRANSFORMED**,
& in order to Truly Live the **Abundant Life**

& when we begin to **WALK**
in this **3-Fold relationship** with the Holy Spirit

We begin to see **the Transformation** in our lives that the Bible calls
"Walking in the Spirit" - & **"The Fruit of the Spirit"**

The **Supernatural Transformation** of our Christian lives
is called **"WALKING in the Spirit"**

& The **Evidence** of the Christian Life
is called **"The FRUIT of the Spirit"**

& **WHY** are **BOTH** the **Transformation** & the **Evidence** of our lives **so tied** to the Holy Spirit ??

Because (again) ***“The Holy Spirit is the primary member of the Godhead at work in the world (& your life) today”***

The Holy Spirit is **GOD** at work **IN** you & **UPON** you for **Radical Transformation** of your life

Gal 5:16 - ESV

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

It is **WALKING** "by" (or in) the Holy Spirit that **CONQUERS** the **destructive nature** of your **FLESH**

AND - it is **Walking** "by" (or in) the Holy Spirit that **PRODUCES** the **miraculous FRUIT** of the Spirit in your life

& **that Fruit** is listed just a **few Vs's** down in

Gal 5:22-23 - ESV

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control . . .

THIS is what the Holy Spirit **does** in you

He **CONQUERS** the **destructive nature** of your **FLESH**

He **PRODUCES** the **miraculous fruit** of the **SPIRIT**

& not only for **your** benefit - but for the benefit of **ALL those** around you (starting with those closest to you)

Because the Holy Spirit is **NOT** living in you - **just** for YOU

He's **also** living in you

to make you an **EDIFYING PART** of the *Body of Christ*

Not only does the Holy Spirit **CONQUER** your flesh

& produce miraculous **FRUIT** in your life

But **He also** gives you **Specific GIFTS** for you to use

as you **fulfill your ROLE** in the Body of Christ

In **Rom Ch12**, **1Cor Ch12**, & **Eph Ch4**

are the *three Primary lists* of the **GIFTS** of the Spirit

& **no list** is complete or "All-Inclusive" because,

as **1Cor 12:4-7** says

1Cor 12:4-7 - ESV

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;

5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;

6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Varieties of **GIFTS**

Varieties of **SERVICE**

Varieties of **ACTIVITIES** - ***ALL for the common good of the Body***

& notice again - here we have

our **Three Common Names** for the Trinity

Same **SPIRIT**

Same **LORD**

Same **GOD** - ***Who empowers them all in everyone !!***

There are **MANY** Gifts of the Holy Spirit
given for the **common good** of all

And **EVERY Christian** has been given gifts
to be **used** in the Body of Christ

& it's a **wonderful study** to learn about the gifts
& **especially wonderful** to learn what **your SPECIFIC** gifts are

& it's even **MORE WONDERFUL**
to **begin to USE** your Gifts in the Body of Christ

I promise you - **THAT** is a **very KEY Part**
of *Living the Abundant Life*

There is **SO MUCH** that the Holy Spirit
is **Responsible for** in the Christian's Life

It just **can't** be ALL **taught** in one msg

We can give you a total of **17 msgs** on the Holy Spirit
back on the **W-B-M table**

& we **can recommend** a number of **GREAT BOOKS**
two I've mentioned here

Under His Influence - Lloyd Pulley
Living Water - Chuck Smith

But **pls hear me** when I say

The **PERSON** & The **ROLE** of the Holy Spirit
is often **Misunderstood**, & even **Ignored** in the Christian church

PLEASE - **DON'T DO THAT**

You **CAN'T** Live for Christ in your own power

GET to **KNOW** the Holy Spirit

STUDY the Scriptures to Know Him (ask us for direction)

ASK God to (1st) **Give you** the Holy Spirit in **Abundance**

Then **continually** ask Him for more & more of His Holy Spirit

to continually **CONQUER** your FLESH, &

to continually **PRODUCE** His NEW LIFE in you

The 4 foundational truths we've reviewed today

1) The Holy Spirit is not a "**force**", He's a **Person**, He is God

2) The Holy Spirit **dwells** in every believer

for **Transformation** & **New Life**,

3) the Holy Spirit comes UPON believers

for POWER to Live for Christ

4) The Holy Spirit **produces** Miraculous **FRUIT**

& imparts Supernatural **GIFTS** to us - as we Walk in Him

You **CAN NOT** live the Christian Life without the Holy Spirit

You **can** be **Religious** - *Very Religious*
BUT **GOD FORBID** that you would

We've got to **Cry Out** to God for the **Power** of the Holy Spirit
to **Transform** us, & to **Produce** New Life in Us

& **that's** just what Jesus tells us to do in **Luk Ch 11**

Luk 11:9-13 - ESV

9 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent;

12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?

13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

ASK God for the **Power** of the Holy Spirit
to live a **Radically Transformed** life for Christ

ASK - In Faith (Jas 1:6) & **Keep Asking**

& you **WILL Receive** *POWER from on HIGH*

To close today → →

I want to give you a pattern to follow
as you pray for the POWER of the Holy Spirit in your life

This pattern comes from the early days of this ministry
even before Sunday Services began

God gave us a FORMULA for Spiritual High Output
& it came from those 3 letters - S - H - O

Surrender Control - ***Get off the throne***

Humble Yourself - ***Empty yourself of ALL SELF***

Obey God - ***Choose to do what God says***

Here's a sample prayer

*Heavenly Father, I SURRENDER to your will,
I surrender control of my life to your Lordship.
I empty myself of ALL SELF,
I HUMBLE myself before you.
I choose to OBEY you, as my Lord.
Please fill me with your Holy Spirit.
Please come UPON me for power to live for you.
Lead me and guide me in Jesus' Name, Amen.*