

simple
C H U R C H



HIGHER AIM

Can You Really Sense The Holy Spirit?

Simple Church | Week 18 | John 15:26-27; 16:1-15

INTRODUCTION

As believers, it is important for us to know what the Word of God says. And in addition to our knowledge, we must be very sensitive to the work of the Holy Spirit inside of our hearts and lives. When we do this, we will know how to respond to Him when He speaks. As a believer, if you are just living your Christian life based on what you know, that's a good place to start, but it is not a good place to stop! God wants you to be in the flow of His Spirit. God wants to speak to you. In this message, we are going to look at several different Scripture verses that will give you a good handle on sensing the Holy Spirit. You will realize that the words speak of Him as a person. He is not an "it!" He is not a "thing!" He is the third person of the Trinity!

KEY POINTS

1. The Holy Spirit can be grieved.

As a child of God, it is important for you to understand that when you don't listen, and when you don't respond to the Holy Spirit, He can't get through to you. Because you are oblivious, ignorant, and insensitive, it causes you to ignore Him. The Scripture says it grieves the Holy Spirit when you are not listening to His voice and responding to His tug.

As believers who have the Holy Spirit inside of us, we need to have our ears open. He can be grieved, and we should have the desire to live in a way that doesn't grieve Him. Instead, we should strive to listen and be sensitive to His guidance and leadership.

2. The Holy Spirit can be rejected.

It is possible for a believer to literally reject the Holy Spirit. When you say you want to do something, you are rejecting the Holy Spirit. People try to justify their behavior. They say, "God told me it was okay to do this." "God told me it was okay to divorce this person." God won't do that. I have a spiritual phrase for that – "Hogwash!" The Holy Spirit will not contradict God's Word. So instead of defaulting to what you want, receive what the Holy Spirit is saying.

3. The Holy Spirit can be quenched.

The word "quench" from the original language means "to extinguish," or "to suppress." Some people don't feel comfortable when the Holy Spirit begins to move in the body of Christ. They get very uncomfortable.

NOTES

HIGHER AIM

Can You Really Sense The Holy Spirit?

Simple Church | Week 18 | John 15:26-27; 16:1-15

It is possible for you to take a bucket of spiritual water and throw it on the Holy Spirit. This stifles His work, and His movement within the body of Christ is limited. Many believers are missing out on God doing something wonderful in their life because they are uncomfortable with the work of the Holy Spirit. May we not be that type of believer.

4. The Holy Spirit can be followed.

The Christian life is to be a Spirit-filled life. In other words, you are either living a flesh-filled life or a Spirit-filled life. We need to understand that the Christian life is to be lived by being in step with the Spirit of God. He is prompting you to do various things in your life or urging you not to do certain things. The Bible says in Romans, “For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God” (Romans 8:14). Therefore, if we want to be called “Spirit-led” or “Spirit-filled” we must follow the Holy Spirit.

5. The Holy Spirit can be felt and heard.

You can hear Him. You can feel Him. I don't want you to live your Christian life by feelings only. Don't think for a moment that if you don't feel something on the inside, you haven't heard from the Holy Spirit. But I want you to know it is possible. Sometimes, He just speaks to you in your mind, and you know in your knower what you are to do. You don't feel anything, but you know that you need to be doing it. The watershed moment comes when you will do what He is telling you to do. As a believer, there will be times when you sense a tug to do certain things...

- In the midst of worship
- In the midst of service
- In the midst of surrender and commitment
- In the midst of study
- In the midst of sharing your faith
- In the midst of pain

6. The Holy Spirit can be blasphemed.

There is only one unforgivable sin! There is only one sin that will send you to hell. If you are a bad person, you won't necessarily go to hell. The one sin that sends you to hell is to blaspheme the Holy Spirit! What does “blaspheme” mean? It means to ridicule. It is important for us to realize that the ultimate blasphemy, the ultimate ridicule of the Holy Spirit, is literally to ignore Him and not respond to Him. The Holy Spirit's job is to point people to Christ. If you say, “I don't want Christ,” you have ridiculed the work of the Holy Spirit. You have blasphemed, you have pushed aside, and you have turned a deaf ear to the Spirit of God.

NOTES

HIGHER AIM

Can You Really Sense The Holy Spirit?

Simple Church | Week 18 | John 15:26-27; 16:1-15

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Are you living your life in a way that shows you are Spirit-filled? Why or why not?
2. When was a time you followed the lead of the Holy Spirit? What did you learn from that experience?
3. When was the last time you heard or felt the Holy Spirit? What situation were you in? How did you respond to that tug?
