

# DIGGING DEEPER



## Abiding In The Vine: Walking in the Holy Spirit's Power and Love

Mar 22, 2026

This powerful message invites us into a deeper understanding of our relationship with the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity who dwells within every believer. Drawing from Galatians 5, we're reminded that walking habitually in the Holy Spirit transforms us from the inside out, changing not just our behavior but our very desires. The sermon unpacks a beautiful truth: the Holy Spirit isn't merely a force or essence, but a person with whom we can cultivate intimate fellowship. Just as Jesus told his disciples it was better for him to leave so the Helper could come, we too have access to this divine companionship that empowers us to overcome our sinful nature. The message explores the profound metaphor of baptism as transformation, comparing it to a cucumber becoming a pickle—permanently changed by being immersed in the solution. When we're baptized in the Holy Spirit, we're not just temporarily affected; we're fundamentally transformed. The fruit of the Spirit, mainly love, becomes the evidence of this transformation. We're challenged to examine what our minds are set on and to recognize that victory over our flesh is won on the battlefield of the mind. The Holy Spirit reminds us of our true identity as beloved sons and daughters, not orphans striving for acceptance we already have. This relationship empowers us to operate in spiritual gifts not for our own glory, but to build up the body of Christ in love.

1. How does understanding the Holy Spirit as a person rather than a force change the way you approach your relationship with Him?

2. In what practical ways can you cultivate walking habitually in the Holy Spirit and being responsive to His guidance in your daily life?

3. What does it mean to you that Jesus said it was better for Him to leave so the Holy Spirit could come, and how does this impact your view of the Spirit's importance?

4. When Paul says we don't always do the good things we want to do, what battles between flesh and Spirit are you currently experiencing?

5. How does the Holy Spirit's testimony that you are a child of God combat the orphan spirit tendencies of comparison, fear of failure, or trying to earn God's favor?

6. Looking at the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5, which fruit do you see most evidently in your life and which needs more cultivation?

7. How can the body of Christ better demonstrate the kind of unselfish love and mutual respect that exists within the Trinity?

8. What fears or misconceptions might be holding you back from seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit or operating in spiritual gifts?

9. How does the pickle illustration help you understand the transformative nature of being baptized in the Holy Spirit versus simply having the Spirit indwell you?

10. In what ways can you seek the Giver rather than just the gifts, ensuring that love remains the foundation for operating in spiritual gifts?

### Remember...

"It is the Holy Spirit who reminds us who we are, whose we are, that we are children of God. When that orphan spirit starts to rise up in us, it is the Holy Spirit who arrests us and says, child, you are a son. You are a daughter. Remember who you are."