

— GOD AS — SPIRIT



GOD AS SPIRIT

Romans 8:9–11 | July 26, 2026 | Maddi Spacht, Youth Pastor

SERMON SUMMARY

Most of us were never taught to think much about the spiritual world. We live in a culture that trusts what it can see, measure, and explain, and somewhere along the way, even many followers of Jesus have ended up treating the Holy Spirit like a background character in their faith. Pastor Maddi challenges that. Drawing from Genesis 1 through Romans 8, she reminds us that the same Spirit who hovered over creation, empowered Jesus, and raised him from the dead now lives in every believer. That is not a small thing. The question is whether we are actually living like it, or whether busyness, distraction, and a lack of discernment are keeping us numb to what God wants to do in and through us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 Maddi described the “Flaw of the Excluded Middle,” the Western tendency to treat the spiritual and physical as completely separate. Where have you seen that assumption show up in your own thinking or in the culture around you?
- 2 The Hebrew word *Ruach* describes the Spirit of God as an animating, life-giving breath present from the very beginning of creation. How does that image change the way you think about the Holy Spirit’s role in your daily life?
- 3 Romans 8:9–11 says the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead now lives in you. Does that feel like an exciting reality, or more like a theological fact you know but don’t quite feel? What do you think makes the difference?
- 4 Maddi said that busyness and distraction leave us “ineffective and vulnerable” as followers of Jesus. Where in your life are you most spiritually distracted or numb right now?
- 5 She warned about spiritual practices not rooted in God becoming more common, even among Christians. How do you personally grow in discernment about what is and is not of the Holy Spirit?
- 6 The sermon closes with Luke 11:13: “How much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.” What would you ask the Holy Spirit for right now if you genuinely believed God wanted to give it?