

THE HOLY SPIRIT

LESSON 4: THE HOLY SPIRIT IN 3-D

Main Idea: When it comes to understanding the Holy Spirit, particularly the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, people typically have questions. Maybe your question is, “Didn’t I receive the Holy Spirit when I gave my life to Christ?” Or it could be, “When I got baptized in water, was I also baptized in the Holy Spirit?” These are good questions. To help answer them, this lesson will examine the three dimensions of relationship with the Holy Spirit. The first dimension is how the Holy Spirit is with everyone, including unbelievers. The second dimension is how the Holy Spirit is in the believer. The final dimension is how the Holy Spirit is upon the believer.

Scripture: Luke 4:18-19; John 14:16-17; 16:7-11; Acts 19:1-7; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; Colossians 2:13; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:14; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:1-2; 1 John 3:24;



SIGHTLINE: Acquire Your Target

What did the Scripture mean to the original author and audience? As you explore information on the author, content, culture, history, land, and language of the Bible, you will gain a better understanding of the intended message of God’s Word.

When a discussion on the Holy Spirit ensues, it's often necessary to talk about Holy Spirit baptism. In this experience, which only takes place after salvation, the Christian receives the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit into their life. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is given for the purpose of equipping the Christian with God's power for life and service.

There were five-hundred people gathered together the day Jesus commanded them to go to Jerusalem and wait for this dimension of the Holy Spirit. Of that five-hundred, only one-hundred and twenty actually gathered in the Upper Room and later received this baptism in the Holy Spirit. You never hear about those three-hundred and eighty who did not obey the command of Jesus. But the one-hundred and twenty who experienced Holy Spirit baptism made an impact on their world and, in fact, people still talk about them two-thousand years later.

Your relationship with the Holy Spirit might be best illustrated with a cup. If you had an empty cup sitting in a sink with water around it, you could say that cup has water **with** it. However, if you took the same cup and put water in it, you could say the cup has water with it and **in** it. Moreover, if you took the same cup and put it in the sink with water in it but put it under the water faucet and turned it on full blast so that the water was splashing in it, over it, and around it, you could say that cup has water with it, in it, and **upon** it. In other words, the cup is being baptized.

The Greek word for baptize means to immerse, saturate, or submerge. That is what Jesus was speaking about when He told the disciples that they would be baptized in the Holy Spirit. That is what Jesus wants for all of His followers. He wants you to have a deep relationship with the Holy Spirit as if you were totally immersed in Him.





CROSSHAIR: Focus on Your Target

What does this study say to you? Through studying the biblical explanations and principles in this study below, you will better understand what God is saying to you today.

Your relationship with Holy Spirit is a three-dimensional relationship. The first dimension examined is that the Holy Spirit is with everyone, including unbelievers. Secondly, the Holy Spirit is in the believer. The final dimension is the Holy Spirit is upon the Spirit-baptized believer.

THE FIRST DIMENSION OF RELATIONSHIP IS WITH. (John 16:7-11).

The first relationship a person has with the Holy Spirit is the **with** relationship. The Holy Spirit is with all people, even people who have not yet given their lives to Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is the One who draws people to God. He is the Convictor—or even the Convincer. He convinces the unbeliever that he is lost and without hope.

The Holy Spirit is *with* the believer, but not yet *in* them. (John 14:16-17) Even the disciples did not have the Holy Spirit in them until after Jesus was resurrected from the dead. Notice in the John 14 passage that Jesus distinguishes between the Holy Spirit being with them, but He will later be in them. The Holy Spirit was initially **with** the disciples even as He is **with** every person today.

One of the Holy Spirit's primary roles is to draw people to Jesus. When you pray for people to come to a saving knowledge of Christ, you are asking the Holy Spirit to convict them. The Holy Spirit is **with** a person to convict them. But, the person must choose to come into right relationship with God. If the Holy Spirit had not been with you when you were being drawn to Christ, you would have never been saved. So, it would be proper to say that the Holy Spirit is **with** the wayward child, **with** the alcoholic, and **with** the sinner, working in them to convince them they need Jesus Christ.



THE SECOND DIMENSION OF RELATIONSHIP IS IN.

(Galatians 4:6; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 1 John 3:24; 2 Timothy 1:14)

The second relationship you can have with the Holy Spirit is the **in** relationship. The Holy Spirit is **in** all people who put their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation. When you pray to receive Christ, the Holy Spirit comes into you. You cannot be saved without the work of the Holy Spirit. He is the one who administers salvation to you.

During the *in* relationship, the Holy Spirit *regenerates* us. (Ezekiel 37:14; John 3:5–6; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Ephesians 2:1; Colossians 2:13; Titus 3:5). Regeneration means you have had a spiritual resuscitation and you have started the process of being made spiritually alive. The Holy Spirit leads you to the place where you are spiritually alive.

During the *in* relationship, the Holy Spirit *provides us assurance*. (Romans 8:16; 1 John 4:13; 5:6; 2 Corinthians 1:21–22; Ephesians 1:13–14; 4:30) The Holy Spirit's presence and His witness confirm spiritual realities in a believer's life. He nurtures the believer's conviction of the truth of God's Word. The Holy Spirit is the one who provides the necessary affirmation that you belong to God.

During the *in* relationship, the Holy Spirit *sanctifies* us. (Romans 1:4; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:1–2) The Holy Spirit works both within and on behalf of the believer to provide the holiness and sanctification that is required. Sanctification is a big theological word that means separated or set apart for a special purpose. When you begin your relationship with Christ, you need help to live in a manner Christ desires from you.

Do you have to be baptized in the Holy Spirit (with the evidence of speaking in tongues) to make it to heaven? The answer is, no. You cannot add anything to the work of the Cross. You are saved by grace through faith. When you put your faith in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in you. But this does not necessarily mean that everyone who believes in Jesus Christ is baptized in the Holy Spirit. All Christians are indwelt by the Spirit, but the degree to which they enjoy His presence in anointing and power greatly varies.



THE THIRD DIMENSION OF RELATIONSHIP IS UPON.

(John 20:22; Luke 4:18-19; Acts 1:4-5,8)

In the third dimension of relationship, the Holy Spirit is **upon** every Spirit-baptized believer. Jesus made a clear distinction between the Holy Spirit being in a believer and the Holy Spirit being **upon** a believer. Jesus is speaking to His disciples who were already believers. They had already put their faith in the risen Christ. The Holy Spirit was already in them.

The Holy Spirit was to come **upon** them for the purpose of being a witness for Jesus Christ. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He told them there was more: a deeper, third dimension of relationship with the Holy Spirit. Jesus describes this dimension as the baptism in the Holy Spirit, telling His disciples not to leave Jerusalem until they had been imbued with this power, until the Holy Spirit had come **upon** them (Luke 24:49). Why was this so important? Why is it still important today?

The **upon** relationship gives you the power to do the works of Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself needed the **upon** relationship with the Holy Spirit to do what God had called Him to do. Likewise, Jesus told the disciples they needed this **upon** relationship to do what He had called them to do.

When you step into this third dimension, consider what the Holy Spirit will be able to do through you: preach the gospel to the poor; heal broken hearts; tell those who are captive they are free; tell those who are blind that they can see again; set at liberty those that have been oppressed and treated cruelly; and proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord—the favor of God. Like the disciples, you need this **upon** relationship to do what God has called you to do.





BULLSEYE: Zero in on Your Target

How can this study apply to your life? By listening to the Holy Spirit's leading as you answer this series of questions, you can gain useful insights that will help you apply the truth of God's Word to your daily life.

Write down your answer to the following questions here or in your journal:

- Who appears in the passages you read?
- Where are these passages taking place?
- When are these passages occurring?
- Why are these passages important?
- What is happening in these passages?
- What verse stood out to you? Why?



- Based on the lesson, describe in your own words the **with** dimension of relationship with the Holy Spirit.

- Based on the lesson, describe in your own words the **in** dimension of relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Look at the chart below and summarize in your own words the role of the Holy Spirit in salvation:

Role	Summary
Regenerate	

Assurance

Sanctify	
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- Based on the lesson, do you have to be baptized in the Holy Spirit in order to make it to heaven? Describe in your own words how a person is saved. Describe your salvation experience.
- Based on the lesson, describe in your own words the **upon** dimension of relationship with the Holy Spirit.
- Based on the lesson, what is the definition of regeneration?
- Based on the lesson, what does the word sanctification mean?

USING MY *FIREBIBLE*

Read the study notes for the following verses in the *FireBible* and answer the accompanying questions:

- John 14:17. How does the Holy Spirit enlighten the minds of people?



- John 16:8. What does the word convict mean? What are three areas the Holy Spirit operates in conviction?

- Acts 2:4. Summarize in your own words the six meanings of “filled with the Holy Spirit.”

- Acts 19:2. What is the literal translation of Paul’s question? Why is this question important?

- Acts 19:6. Why is the recording of this event important for you today?

Read the *FireBible* article “Regeneration: Spiritual Birth and Renewal.” Summarize the important aspects of spiritual birth in the chart below.

Activity	Summary Concept
Inward Recreation	
Necessary	
Repentance	
Complete Change	
Walk	
Conduct	
Loss	
Receive New Birth	





TRIGGER PULL: Hit Your Target

How does this study affect your relationship with God and others? You experience God's Word in action as you use it to direct your journey with Him and those around you. Answer the following questions and record the answers below or in your journal.

- Take some time to listen to the Lord about what you just studied. How did this study help deepen your love for God?
- Write down a thought from this study that you experienced this week.
- As a result of your deepened love for God, how can you practically demonstrate the thought you experienced to your family and to others around you?

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