



Sermon Series: Why I believe part 5

Sermon Title: Why I believe – Holy Spirit

Date: January 30, 2022

Acts 1:8 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.”

Big Idea: Nothing is Impossible for the Holy Spirit.

We believe this because we know 3 Characteristics

1. The Holy Spirit is PERSONal

The Holy Spirit is a PERSON and He is extremely personal with you. He isn't a tool that's used by God and Jesus or some transcendent abstract entity. He is someone dwelling within you, he has emotions, desires, and a mission. He isn't a passive entity that's inside of you. You have someone *living* inside of you. Who *hears* you, *speaks* to you, *convicts* you.

- The Holy Spirit has emotions (**Ephesians 4:30**).
- You can also discourage the spirit (**1 Thessalonians 5:19**). To quench means to extinguish the fire or passion of the spirit within you.
- He can guide and evaluate us (**Acts 15:28**).
- The Holy Spirit Also teaches and reminds you (**John 14:26**).

2. The Holy Spirit is Divine

The Holy Spirit is equal to God, and yet distinct. He sustains life on earth.

Genesis 1:1-2 - The Spirit of God, The Holy Spirit, hovering over the face of the waters.

In **Genesis 2:7** the word ruakh means: Breath, Spirit, and Wind and this is where we see the divinity of the Spirit of God as He animates and sustains all life.

In **John 16:7** the Helper is The Holy Spirit. The one who originally breathed life into man, is once again not only sustaining you but creating a bridge of fellowship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit himself. The Holy Spirit who originally breathed life into man, who sustains all of creation, dwells within those who have received Christ.

3. The Holy Spirit is at Work

In order to truly understand the Spirit's work in us, we need to differentiate between the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit filling us. When speaking of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, this is something that happens within us – One time- the moment we receive Christ as our savior (**1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 8:9**).

On the flip side, being filled with the Spirit is something that can be done multiple times. Being filled with the Spirit is for all believers! However, we need to continually yield to God to be filled (**Ephesians 5:17-18**).

From this indwelling and filling of the Spirit, we begin to see the power of the Spirit at work in our lives. One of these results is the discovery of our spiritual gifts (**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**). This passage tells us three things about spiritual gifts: They are manifestations of the Spirit, they edify the body of Christ, and they are given as as the Spirit wills them. When we realize that we are equipped with the gift of discerning spirits, or the gift of knowledge, or the gift of healing, what they are all meant for is building up the body of Christ. Each member in the body of Christ is not meant to be the exact same. The body of Christ is meant to be unified, but diverse. The Holy Spirit has equipped each of us, and we each have a purpose, but we all use the gifts bestowed upon us by the Spirit in order to strengthen the body.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **What are some misconceptions that you have had about the Holy Spirit?**
- **Why do different churches hold differing views on the Holy Spirit working in through believers?**
- **What are some things a person can do to grieve the Holy Spirit?**
- **How have you seen the Holy Spirit work in your life?**
- **Do you believe it is biblical to pray to the Holy Spirit? Explain**