

vineyardusa®

EMPOWERED | WEEK 1: REVELATION

BIG IDEA: The Holy Spirit is a Revealer who's always revealing.

INTRO:

- There is much confusion in the world today about the Holy Spirit.
- In the Vineyard, we believe in the Person, the Power, and the Presence of the Holy Spirit.
- The Hebrew word for “Holy Spirit” is *ruach* (breath, wind). The Greek word is *pneuma* (breath). Breath is vital for life, and the Bible shows us how vital the Holy Spirit is for our lives!
- The Holy Spirit is mentioned all throughout scripture:

HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- He created the material universe and humanity (Genesis 1:2, Psalm 33:6, Job 33:4)
- He came at particular places, to particular people, for particular purposes
 - Deborah (Judges 4 & 5)
 - Saul (1 Samuel 10:6,10)
 - Zerrubal (Zechariah 4:6)
- He anticipated the Anointed One, the Messiah (Isaiah 42:2)
- He would one day be poured out on the people of Israel (Ezekiel 39:29)
- He would be experienced universally (Joel 2:28-29)

HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Jesus was born of the Spirit (Luke 1:35)
- Jesus lived a sinless life in the power of the Spirit (Hebrews 9:14)
- He led Jesus in His earthly movements (Luke 4:1)
- By the power of the Spirit, Jesus was raised from the dead (Romans 8:11)
- After his resurrection, Jesus gave commandments to his apostles through the Spirit (Acts 1:2)
- Truth was hidden before the spirit revealed it (Ephesians 3:3-5)

- How do we describe the Holy Spirit?

“Who is this Holy Spirit? He is not a ghost, an impersonal force, or an elusive power ‘out there.’ He is neither a doctrine to be studied nor a distant deity to be feared. He is a Person to be known and loved. He is God Himself. He is one of three Persons of the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. One God, three Persons. He is God’s gift of Himself to each of us. He makes the Christian life indescribably beautiful and a fun-filled delight.” – Diane Leman, *Hello Holy Spirit*.

Three ways the Holy Spirit reveals Himself to us:

1. The Holy Spirit reveals Himself to us by the life He births in us.

Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can’t explain how people are born of the Spirit.” | John 3:5-8 (NLT)

- The Holy Spirit lives inside anyone who commits their life to Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit also reveals and uncovers Jesus and the Father to us.
- We come to life spiritually by the birthing of the Holy Spirit.

2. The Holy Spirit empowers us so that He may reveal Himself to others.

‘Philip ran over and heard the man reading from the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” The man replied, “How can I, unless someone instructs me?” And he urged Philip to come up into the carriage and sit with him. The passage of Scripture he had been reading was this: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter. And as a lamb is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. He was humiliated and received no justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?” So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look! There’s some water! Why can’t I be baptized?” He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. | Acts 8:30-38 (NLT)

- The Holy Spirit is the Revealer, who is always revealing. Look how revelation is happening all throughout this story:
 - He led and directed Philip to the Ethiopian Eunuch.
 - He empowered Philip to explain the good news of the Gospel to this confused man.
 - He makes everything suddenly clear to the Eunuch. Dots are connected. Jesus is revealed because of the Holy Spirit’s leading!
 - He impresses on the Eunuch that needs to be baptized immediately, and the Eunuch responds to that revelation!
- Jesus is the Revealer who makes Jesus known to people!
 - It is the Holy Spirit who makes Jesus

- If you want to study more of the Holy Spirit revealing Jesus to people, Read Acts 8, 9, & 10. These chapters are full of stories of people being transformed by the revelation of Jesus through the power of the Spirit.
- When Jesus gets a hold of your life, everything changes!
- Transformation starts with truth, and truth has a name, and His name is Jesus! And it is the Holy Spirit's job to reveal him to us!
- The good news is that this is not a one-time thing. We can know the Holy Spirit as Revealer all throughout our lives.
- When you think about your life and the state of the world today, how many of you feel like we could use some Holy Spirit revelation? Has anyone else needed some clarity over the past few years?

3. The Holy Spirit brings us clarity where there is confusion.

- He knows exactly what we need to hear at the exact time we need to hear it.
- The last couple of years have been hard for everyone. There is so much confusion in the world.
 - Sometimes, it feels like the world is beyond redemption. Do you ever wonder if Jesus is big enough to handle the craziness of our times?
 - We likely find ourselves worrying for the future of our families, our church, and even the Vineyard.
- But it is the Holy Spirit who reminds us that He is in control and brings clarity to our confusion.
- HE is the keeper of our Vineyard!

A pleasant vineyard, sing of it! I, the Lord, am its keeper; every moment, I water it. Lest anyone punish it, I keep it night and day. | Isaiah 27:2-3

- It's our job to release our fear and need to control so that He can come in and reveal Himself in the midst of our confusion.
- He cares for our deepest needs, desires, and confusion, and He wants to reveal himself to us!

PRAY: Holy Spirit, Come! Reveal yourself to us more fully. Birth new life in us. EMPOWER US so that Jesus may be revealed to others. Bring clarity to our confusion and chaos.

