

HOLY SPIRIT

Part 2 / Breathing

RELEARNING TO BREATHE

Genesis 2:7 / Psalm 104:23-24 / Romans 8:2 / John 7:38-39

- ▶ Whenever the Old Testament refers to the Spirit of God, it speaks of _____, _____ or _____
- ▶ The "Spirit (RUAH) of the Lord" is mentioned over two dozen times in the Old Testament

OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

KING _____: 2 Samuel 23:2 / Psalm 51:11

_____ : Judges 15:14; 16:34 / Judges 16:20

_____ : Judges 6:34

_____ : 1 Samuel 10:6; 11:6 / 1 Samuel 16:14

_____ : Exodus 31:1-3

PROBLEM: The ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament was _____

DREAM: That the Holy Spirit would be poured out on all God's people

Numbers 11:24-29 / Joel 2:28 / Ezekiel 37:5-6

NEW TESTAMENT CHANGE IN OPERATION

John 20:21-22 / Luke 3:16 / Acts 2:2-4

- ▶ What a tragic thing it is for people to be ignorant of the ministry of the Holy Spirit or take it for granted.

CAN THESE BONES LIVE? (BREATHE OUT, BREATH IN)

- Psalm 139:23-24 – *Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting*
- Ephesians 6:18 – *And pray in the Spirit... on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*

Creekside Events



LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of October May 21-27, 2023

Prayer

Holy Spirit, You are welcome here. Please lead our conversation and time together. We yield ourselves to You.

My Story

If someone tells you that you have bad smelling breath, what is your first response?

Digging Deep

- 1) Thinking back over Sunday's message, was there any point or observation that particularly spoke to you or grabbed your attention?
- 2) Read **Genesis 2:7**. Why do you think God chose to create humans from the dust of the ground and breathe life (*ruah*, spirit) into us personally, rather than just snapping us into existence?
- 3) Read **John 16:7**. Why is it better to live in the era of the Holy Spirit rather than in the days when Jesus lived on earth in the flesh? How would you differentiate the role of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament era vs. the Post-Pentecost era? (Hint: John 7:37-39; 1 Corinthians 3:16 & 6:19)

Digging Deeper

- 4) Read the following passages about the activity of the Holy Spirit in each of these Old Testament characters. Give an example following each passage of how the Holy Spirit still functions in a similar way today.
 - **2 Samuel 23:2** (David)
 - **Judges 15:14** (Samson)
 - **Judges 6:34** (Gideon)
 - **Exodus 31:1-3** (Bezalel)

- 5) Have you ever sensed the Holy Spirit working through you in a powerful way? What happened? How did it make you feel?

DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

- 6) Read **Luke 3:16**. John the Baptist states that the Messiah will baptize believers with the Holy Spirit. What do you think that means? Why do believers need this? When does it occur?

Taking it Home

- 7) Read **Psalm 139:23-24**. How can our personal prayer life reflect this Psalm? Write a simple prayer to the Holy Spirit inviting Him to do what is mentioned in these verses. Have someone share their prayer in your group.
- 8) Are you currently attempting to "breathe out" any toxic behaviors in your life? Is the Holy Spirit helping you identify a particular sin habit in which you are "holding your breath" (i.e., resisting confession, repentance and moving in a new direction)? Read **Psalm 139:23-24** again and, in privacy, choose to obey the voice of the Spirit by "breathing out" what is toxic to your soul.

EXTRA CREDIT

- 9) Ephesians 6:18 says "*pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*" Read **Ephesians 6:10-20** (context) and write a simple note explaining your understanding of "*praying in the Spirit.*"

Praying Together

Pray with one another that we may sustain better habits of breathing in the Spirit through listening, obedience, worship, study, and prayer... and breathing out any spiritual toxins (sins) which grieve the Spirit and hinder us from enjoying the fullness of God.