

# HOLY SPIRIT

## The Power of the Holy Spirit

February 26, 2023 - Pastor Jason Carter

### Our mission and vision at Good News Church:

**WE LIVE TO SEE LIVES TRANSFORMED THROUGH JESUS**

We are a family committed to seeing lives changed. We connect people to God and others, make disciples of Jesus, and are Spirit-empowered people who live out the Good News in our world. And, we are each determined to fulfill our unique purpose in God's mission to everyone, everywhere, every day.

**The Person of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit is a unique person of the Trinity who wants to bring life from death. **He was sent as a helper, guide, and comforter.** We should be in relationship with Him. If Jesus Himself states that it's good that He leave so the Spirit (advocate) can come, we can trust that the Holy Spirit is worth knowing! We should **know Him, engage Him, hear Him, and be led of Him.**

**The Passion of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit acts in our lives in different ways: He sanctifies us, which means to be set apart for God's special use and purpose. The Holy Spirit also takes up residence within us and convicts us of sin. When we misstep, the Spirit is who reveals to us our wrongdoing while pointing us back to Christ. This is a gift that draws us closer to the Lord. The sacrifice of Jesus is greater than our behavior, so stop paying interest on sin! **The greater truth is that we have been washed, sanctified, and justified by Jesus.**

**The Persistence of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit doesn't just sanctify at the time of surrender to Jesus; it is an ongoing process of sanctification. He makes us more and more like Jesus as we draw near. Our feelings or emotions may lead us to ungodly beliefs or actions, but the work of the Spirit changes our hearts and leads us to godliness.

### **The Power of the Holy Spirit:**

**1 Peter 1:3** "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness."

We want the Holy Spirit to act for us; but He is partnering **with** us, enabling us, guiding us to make decisions for everyday life. We need to **apply** what He has given us.

**Peter 1:4** "Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."

How do we make this part of our regular, everyday life?

- **Power in us**
- **Power through us**

We need to make it a natural, "muscle memory" situation which comes from repetition, repetition, repetition!

When a situation arises, we should immediately engage the Lord:

- "Lord, what is my next step in this situation?"

- "Lord, how do I respond in this conversation?"

- "Lord, show me what I'm not seeing, is there anything I am missing in my natural mind or training?"

Participate **WITH** Him and engage Him daily, in every circumstance.

Long-term changes **COME THROUGH PRACTICE.**

What do we do differently in order to make a change?

1. Decide.
2. Make necessary changes.
3. Practice this new decision so it becomes a part of daily living.

Practice positions us to connect with the Holy Spirit.

- Moment by moment
- Issue by issue

- How are you engaging with the Holy Spirit in everyday life?

- What changes can you make to participate with Him in all circumstances?

- What will you do to practice this decision?

To walk in God's power, we **MUST** stay connected to Him.

**John 15** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

The Holy Spirit is our direct connection to Jesus, enabling His life to flow into ours. His victory flows into our weakness. The Holy Spirit will give us access to people, things or situations that we might find unbelievable or inaccessible, yet still true.

**Ephesians 6:10** "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

Our biggest obstacle is not always the "enemy"; it's us.

- Our own ignorance
- Our own anger
- Our own selfishness
- Our own laziness

**Ephesians 5:18** "Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Paul tells us don't be ignorant or unknowing but **become aware** and **receive God's power**. He is saying to **be filled now** and **continue to be filled** by God's Spirit. Remember, it is an ongoing journey of transformation.

When we find ourselves in a moment, the goal should be to stop, engage and ask the Holy Spirit to supply what we need.

**1. Stop:** Become aware of the moment.

- a. "What am I doing?"
- b. "How or what I am feeling?"

Remember, the first step to transformation is awareness!

**2. Engage:** What am I engaging the Holy Spirit for?

- a. "Holy Spirit I need you in this moment."
- b. Declare God's promises over the areas of your life being affected. (peace, provision, etc.)

**3. Receive:** What can I expect from the Holy Spirit?

- a. "God, I receive what you promised in Your word. I ask You would fill me. I have access to the Spirit of God. He is forming this fruit in me. He is strengthening me in my inner being."

**4. Practice:** How will I put this into practice?

- a. Do it. Do it every day. Practice going to God first.

We must learn to *change the channel* in our minds!

## CHANGE THE CHANNEL IN YOUR MIND!

Maybe we are frustrated or disappointed, etc. but we can't camp there. We can't afford to stay there. Instead, **engage** the Holy Spirit! Change the channel, pursue Him in that moment, letting Him lead and guide you to the truth.

**Ephesians 3:16** I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being.

- **Stop:** Identify the discouragement or disappointment.
- **Engage:** "God, You promise power in this moment."
- **Receive:** "God I receive your power to overcome disappointment and discouragement. Don't let me quit. Don't let me give up. Don't let me become bitter. Don't let me tap out."
- **Practice:** Do it over and over again, until it becomes part of your everyday life.

**2 Tim 1:7** For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Some fear is healthy, but an overwhelming, replaying fear is not where we are supposed to live. Replace the narrative with the truth of God's word (love casts out all fear).

- **Stop:** Where is my focus? What am I saying to myself? How am I reacting?
- **Engage:** What does the Bible say? God loves me. God delights in me. God is for me. "I have access to Your power in this moment and season. I have access to your love. Your love casts out fear. I acknowledge fear, but I lean into your love. I have a mind that is stable and secure because my mind is kept on you."
- **Receive:** "I align myself to what you have said. I receive power right now. I receive your love right now."
- **Practice:** Change the channel. Engage the Holy Spirit. Do it in every situation.

KNOW THE WORD OF GOD

**Luke 8: 43-48** *Woman with the issue of blood*

She sees her opportunity because **the word of God positioned her to know the truth.**

- Ephesians 3:16  
Strength in our inner being
- Phil 4:11-13  
Overwhelmed by need
- 2 Timothy 1:7  
Replacement of fear
- Romans 15:13  
Joy, Peace and Hope overflowing
- Isaiah 40:28-29  
Strength and power for the weary and weak
- 2 Cor 12:9-10  
Utilizing weakness correctly

- Are you practicing engaging with the Spirit?

- How will you engage the Holy Spirit and partner with Him to receive power for everyday life?

Our prayer:

Holy Spirit, fill me. Help me to yield to you. Help me to surrender. Be my helper, my guide. Lead me, strengthen, empower me to do what you have called me to do.