

Empowered

Life is better w/ the Holy Spirit - January 15, 2023

Who is the Holy Spirit? Why is the Holy Spirit? What does He do? How does He do it? Where is He? Who is this 3rd person of the trinity?

We are to be born of the Spirit; born again & filled w/ the Spirit

John 3:5 Jesus replied, “I assure you; no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water & **the Spirit**.⁶ Humans can reproduce only human life, but *the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.*”

By receiving Jesus as Lord, our spirit is made “alive” by the Holy Spirit.

He’s a source of inspiration, strength & a part of the process of salvation.

The Holy Spirit (Ghost) is an active force in us, as believers in Jesus.

John 14:16 I will ask the Father, & He will give you another Advocate (*Savior, Helper, Comforter, Intercessor, Counselor, Strengtheners, Friend, Encourager*), who will never leave you.¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive Him because it isn’t looking for Him & doesn’t recognize Him. But you know Him because He lives w/ you now & later will be **in** you.

He’s a divine presence in the world & in us.

26 But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—He will teach you everything & will remind you of everything I have told you.

The Holy Spirit was sent to remind us about Christ’s teachings & empower us to live in light of the gospel.

He helps us grow in our faith & understand God’s will.

John 15:26 But I will send you the Advocate -the Spirit of Truth. He will come to you from the *Father* & will testify all about **Me**.

The Holy Spirit is an essential part of the Christian life;

He’s the one who guides, consoles, & always points us to Jesus!

Acts 1:1 In my first book, I told you Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do & teach² until the day He was taken up to heaven after giving

His chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. 3 During the forty days after He suffered & died, He appeared to the apostles from time to time, & He proved to them in many ways that He was actually alive. He talked to them about the Kingdom of God. 4 Once when He was eating w/ them, He commanded them, “**Don’t leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the Gift He promised, as I told you before.** 5 **John baptized w/ water, but in a few days you’ll be baptized w/ the Holy Spirit.**” 6 When the apostles were w/ Jesus, they kept asking Him, Lord has the time come for you to free Israel & restore our kingdom? 7 He replied, “**The Father alone has the authority to set those dates & times, they’re not for you to know.** 8 ***But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere - in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, & to the ends of the earth.***”

He’s empowering us believers to live a godly life & to witness for Jesus.

Acts 2:1 NIV When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a ***sound*** like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven & filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues (*pillar*) of fire that separated & came to rest on *each* of them. 4 ***All*** of them were filled w/ the Holy Spirit & began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled (*empowered*) them.

Acts 2:33 Now He’s exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God’s right hand. The Father, as He had promised, gave Him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see & hear today...

36 “Let everyone in Israel know for certain that God’s made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both *Lord & Messiah!*” 37 Peter’s words pierced their heart & they said to him & to the other apostles, “***Brothers, what should we do?***” 38 Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins & turn to God & be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you’ll receive *the gift of the Holy Spirit.* 39 This promise is to you, your children, & to those far away - all who have been called by the Lord our God.” 40 Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!” 41 Those who believed what Peter said were baptized & added to the church that day-about 3,000 in all. 42 All the believers

devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, sharing in meals (*including the Lord's Supper*) & prayer. 43 A deep sense of awe came over them all & the apostles performed many miraculous signs & wonders. 44 All the believers met together in one place & shared everything they had. 45 They sold their property & possessions & shared the money w/ those in need. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, & shared their meals w/ great joy & generosity-47 all the while praising God & enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

The Holy Spirit releases the power of God in us.

Luke 24:49 Now I'll send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes & fills you (*clothes, fully equips*) w/ **power** from heaven.

Most of us are saved, but we have very little manifestation of His power. Let's stir up His power in our lives, let Him out, let Him flow in our families, in all of our relationships, at our work, & in our church!

Acts 10:38 You know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth w/ the Holy Spirit & w/ **power**. Then Jesus went around doing good & healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was w/ Him.

By being filled w/ - baptized w/ the Holy Spirit, we release His power, His gifts, & our spiritual prayer abilities.

Matthew 22:29 NKJV ...you're mistaken, not knowing the Word nor the **power** of God.

The Holy Spirit works through us as we submit to Him.

II Timothy 1:7 AMP God did not give us a spirit of timidity, cowardice or fear, but He has given us a Spirit of ***Power***, love & of sound judgement..

As we pray & seek the presence of the Holy Spirit, we're able to experience His presence & power in our lives.

II Timothy 3:5 AMP holding to a form of outward godliness (*religion*), although they have denied its *power* - for their conduct nullifies their claim of faith. (*they want nothing to do w/ God's power*)

As we activate the Holy Spirit, we release His power in our lives.

Romans 8:11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, He will give life to your mortal bodies by this *same Spirit living within you*.

When we walk w/ the Holy Spirit, we have His power to assist us in life

John 16:13 **When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth.***

*Jesus is the Savior from the **guilt** of sin,
the Holy Spirit is the Savior from the **power** of sin.*

Romans 15:13 AMP May the God of your hope so fill you w/ all joy & peace in believing [through the experience of your faith] that by the power (*life-giving energy*) of the Holy Spirit you may abound & be overflowing (*bubbling over*) w/ hope.

This was the normal experience for the early Christian Church. With it, comes the power for life, service, & the gifts for the work of ministry.