

Empowered

Life Is Better With the Holy Spirit - January 8, 2023

Who is the Holy Spirit? Why is the Holy Spirit? What does He do? How does He do it? Where is He? Jesus is very clear: the Holy Spirit is our real & necessary Helper, Advocate, Counselor, Comforter, Teacher, Intercessor, Strengthener sent to empower us to live the Christian life.

Acts 1:8 You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere..."

*When we walk w/ the Holy Spirit, we have His power in our lives.
We are to be born of the Spirit; born again & filled w/ the Spirit*

John 3:3 "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." 4 "What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb & be born again?" 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."

*The Holy Spirit comes to end the curse of sin in our lives,
& to save us from its every effect.*

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

As Jesus is the Savior from the guilt of sin, the Holy Spirit is the Savior who saves us from the power of sin - by living through us in fullness.

John 14:16 I will ask the Father, & He will give you another Advocate (*Savior, Helper, Comforter, Intercessor, Counselor, Strengthener, Friend*), 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.

The Holy Spirit is in us to fellowship & help us in every aspect of life.

To receive the Holy Spirit, is to receive a Protector, Defender, & one who saves us from our self, our enemies, & keeps us healthy & whole.

He's the one who guides, comforts, consoles, & always points us to Jesus.

23 All who love Me will do what I say. My Father will love them, & We will come & make Our home w/ each of them...

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.

He reminds us about all that Jesus has taught.

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

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

Comforter—one called alongside.

Counselor—one who gives advice & ideas.

Helper—one who assists in making life easier.

Advocate—one who pleads another's case, like a lawyer/defender.

Intercessor—one who goes between/mediates/makes requests.

Strengthener—one who increases the strength or ability of another.

Standby—one who is ready to serve & can always be counted on.

The Holy Spirit is everything we need in life.

John 16:7 But in fact, it's best for you (*to your advantage*) that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send Him* to you. 8 And when He comes, He'll convict the world of its sin*, of God's righteousness & of the coming judgment. 9 The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in Me. 10 Righteousness is available because I go to the Father & you'll see Me no more. 11 Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged. 12 There's so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. 13 **When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth.*** He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future. 14 He will bring Me glory* by telling you whatever He receives from Me. 15 All that belongs to the Father is Mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever He receives from Me.'

*v7 *Jesus will send the Defender.* ---→ *v8 *He convicts us of sin.*

**v13 He guides us to truth. ---→ *v14 He brings glory to Jesus*

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.

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

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..

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.

As we walk w/ the Holy Spirit, we have 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.

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.