

Sunday, February 19, 2023
THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT
PART 1: THE MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT

Today, we're going to begin a series called, "The Leading of the Spirit". This series is intended to continue our journey into revival by discovering how the Holy Spirit leads us. To begin, we first need to know a few things about the Spirit. Who is the Holy Spirit? The first mention in the Bible of the Holy Spirit is right at the beginning:

[Genesis 1:1-2 \(NIV\)](#)

This is an important scene because it sets the precedent of the Spirit's role in the creative work of God. The Spirit had a definitive role in the incarnation of Jesus:

[Luke 1:35 \(NIV\)](#)

The word "overshadow" is the Greek word: *episkiázō* ("overshadow") is used in the NT of *God's over-shadowing presence* – which always brings His *boulē*-plan to pass (see */boulé*, "God's immutable will for *physical circumstances*").

This is so much like what we see at the beginning of creation. The Spirit overshadowing to bring about God's will in the natural realm. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – three distinct Persons making up what we know as the Godhead. Let's keep in mind the Spirit's role in the establishment of God's will in the natural and go on to learn some more. We know that Jesus' incarnation was a work of the Spirit. The Bible tells us that the Spirit played a role in Jesus' resurrection:

[Romans 8:11 \(NIV\)](#)

Everyone say: "The Spirit brings to pass God's will in the natural." Does the Spirit play a role in your life?

We are born again by the Spirit.

[John 3:5-6 \(NIV\)](#)

Remember Romans 8:11? Divine life is imparted to us by the Spirit. The resurrected Christ breathed on His disciples the Holy Spirit imparting divine life:

John 20:21-22 (NIV)

After breathing upon them to receive divine life, Jesus told them to wait for what He called the promise of the Father to baptize them:

Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)

Jesus told them that this baptism would be a gift that would empower them to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8).

We are empowered by the Spirit.

Which brings us to another truth:

We are gifted by the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (NIV)

Gifted and empowered to be His witnesses. To close today, Jesus called the Holy Spirit:

paráklētos (from /pará, "from close-beside" and /kaléō, "make a call") – properly, a *legal advocate* who makes the right judgment-*call* because *close* enough to the situation. /paráklētos ("advocate, advisor-helper") is the regular term in NT times of an *attorney* (lawyer) – i.e. someone *giving evidence that stands up in court*.

His ministry is to be with you forever and to lead you in the will of God.

John 14:16-17 (NIV)

John 14:25-26 (NIV)

The Spirit's ministry is to establish God's will in the natural world – in earth as it is in heaven.

Next week, we study how the Spirit moves in our lives.

Today's Scriptures:

- Genesis 1:1-2 (NIV)
- Luke 1:35 (NIV)
- Romans 8:11 (NIV)
- John 3:5-6 (NIV)
- John 20:21-22 (NIV)
- Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (NIV)
- John 14:16-17 (NIV)
- John 14:25-26 (NIV)