Your Relationship With The Holy Spirit Lesson 1

# Introduction

When we disconnect a power cord from an outlet we lose the power that is needed to operate the device. In other words you can have all the parts in place, but if there’s no power to those parts, the machine or device just doesn’t operate the way it was designed.

Too many Christians are disconnected from God’s power source and as a result they are not operating the way God designed them to.

In this Grow Group study, we’ll discover who the Holy Spirit is, where the Holy Spirit lives, what the Holy Spirit does, why we need Him and how to relate to Him.

Group discussion and questions are welcomed in order to bring clarity and understanding in this very important topic. Sharing personal experiences are also important for others to learn.

# I. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Bible teaches us that God is one being eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son & Holy Spirit. We refer to these three as the Godhead.

**Rom.1:20 says**, *“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse”*

* Another term used for ‘Godhead’ is “Trinity”, which comes from tri-unity or three united as one.

An example in scripture that speaks of the trinity is found in **Mt.28:20**, Jesus said, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the* ***Father*** *and of the* ***Son*** *and of the* ***Holy Spirit****.*”

The following verses reveal the deity of each person of the Godhead. **Read the Holy Spirit verses**

* **God the Father** – Eph.5:20; Mt.11:27
* **God the Son** – Isaiah 9:6; Luke 1:35; Col.2:9; 1 John 5:20
* **God the Holy Spirit** – Eph.4:30; Luke 1:35; John 4:24

# II. Is the Holy Spirit a Person or a Thing?

Some people refer to the Holy Spirit in terms of a force or an energy, like electricity or fire. Although the Bible uses objects to describe the Holy Spirit like a dove, breath, wind, fire & oil, these are only analogies that resemble His function.

* **For example: At Jesus’ baptism in Mt.3:16**, *“When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending* ***like a dove*** *and alighting upon Him.”*

However, when Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit, He referred to Him very specifically as a **person**.

**i). Read John 16:13-14** and count the number of times Jesus uses either “He” or “His” in reference to the Holy Spirit. *13 "However, when* ***He****, the Spirit of truth, has come,* ***He*** *will guide you into all truth; for* ***He*** *will not speak on* ***His*** *own authority, but whatever* ***He*** *hears* ***He*** *will speak; and* ***He*** *will tell you things to come. 14 "****He*** *will glorify Me, for* ***He*** *will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”*

**Q.** Did you count them? How many times did Jesus use a masculine pronoun to refer to the Holy Spirit!

That means the Holy Spirit has a personality. And as God, He’s eternal, all knowing, all present, and all powerful. He thinks, speaks, listens, feels, loves, helps, etc., but He can also be offended and grieved.

**Eph.4:30 says,** *“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit”. Grieve means to sadden or produce sorrow.*

# III. Where Is The Holy Spirit?

Jesus told his disciples that one day He was going to leave them, and that it was important He did, so that in turn, He could send them the Holy Spirit.

God created mankind with the intention of dwelling in Him

**i). Read Gen.2:7** What does the ‘breath of life’ signify?

**ii). Read John 20:21-22** What was the first thing God wanted to do for mankind upon their belief in Jesus?

**iii).** Read the following verses and determine the involvement of the Holy Spirit in becoming born again

* **John 3:3-7** first - natural birth (water); second - spiritual birth (Spirit)
* **Rom.8:9-10 *“****But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells* ***in*** *you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is* ***in*** *you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.”*

**iv). Read the following verses and determine where the Holy Spirit is now that you are born again?**

* **John 14:16-17** *"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be* ***in*** *you.”*

*\*\*\** (Don’t forget Jesus was speaking here to His disciples before they were born again because Jesus hadn’t yet shed His blood and resurrected)

* **Eph.1:13-14** *“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”*
* **1Cor.6:19** – *“Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who* ***is in you,*** *whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”*
* **Gal.2:20** “I’ve been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who lives but Christ who lives **in** me…”

(Christ means anointing, which means to ‘rub or smear’ – which is in reference to when prophets would pour, rub or smear oil on someone to set them apart or appoint them for ministry, ie. kings)

Remember, oil is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. So then, who’s the anointing?

# IV. Each person take a turn in reading one of the following Bible references, and as a group, identify the benefits that we gain by receiving the Holy Spirit, and why that is so important to each of us.

1. **Rom.8:10** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **2 Cor.3:17 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
3. **Titus 3:5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **Gal.5:22-23 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
5. **John 14:16-17** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. **John 14:26** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. **John 16:13-14 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
8. **Act 4:31 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
9. **Acts 1:8** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **10. 1 Cor.12:4-11** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

# V. Conclude

We discuss these benefits in more detail in the lessons to come.