An Introduction to the
HOLY SPIRIT
VLAD SCHOOL

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"It is not a question of you getting more of the Holy Spirit, but of the Holy Spirit getting more of you."

R.A. Torrey

LESSON 1

The Holy Spirit

I. He is the Spirit

The Hebrew word for the Spirit is *ruach*, and it means wind, breath, or spirit.

1. It reveals to us His divine nature, for God is Spirit (John 4:24).

2. It reveals to us the Holy Spirit as the Breath of the Almighty.

But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding (Job 32:8).

3. The Breath of God is connected to natural life.

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being (Genesis 2:7).

The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life (Job 33:4).

4. The Breath of God is connected to spiritual life.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, "You must be born again." The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit (John 3:6-8).

And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:22).

5. The Breath of God is connected to the inspiration of the Scripture.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God [lit. God breathed]...
(2 Timothy 3:16, addition mine).

II. He is Holy

The use of the adjective *holy* in connection with the Spirit of God is found about 100 times in the Bible.

1. The Holy Spirit is distinguished from all other spirits that are not holy.

The Holy Spirit is distinct from:

- *Familiar spirits (Lev. 20:27).*
- *Evil spirits (Jud 9:23).*
- *Lying spirits (1 Kg 22:22).*
- *Unclean spirits (Matt. 10:1).*
- *Foul spirits (Mrk 9:25).*
- *Spirits of divination (Acts 16:16).*
- *Seducing spirits (1 Tim. 4:1).*
- *Spirits of devils (Rev. 16:14).*

2. The Holy Spirit represents a holy God.

After all, I, the LORD, am your God. You must be holy because I am holy (Lev. 11:44 NLT).

3. The Holy Spirit inspired holy men to write a holy book.

...for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:2).

4. The Holy Spirit is in the world to deal with the sin issue (John 16:8-11).

5. The Holy Spirit makes us holy.

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth (2 Thess. 2:13).

"The pearl-diver lives at the bottom of the ocean by means of the pure air conveyed to him from above. His life is entirely dependent on the life-giving Spirit. We are down here, like the diver, to gather pearls for our Master's crown. The source of our life comes from above."

Henry Drummond

LESSON 2

The Holy Spirit is God

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one (1 John 5:7-8).

I. The Holy Spirit is the very first person of the Godhead to be named and identified in the Bible (Genesis 1:2).

II. The Holy Spirit is called God.

A. Peter called the Holy Spirit God (Acts 5:3-4).

B. Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as God (Matt.12:28; Luke 11:20).

C. He is also called:

The Spirit of God (1 Pet. 4:14; Gen. 1:2; 1 Cor. 2:10-14).

The Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:7 NIV).

The Spirit of the Living God (2 Cor. 3:3).

The Spirit of the Father (Matt. 10:20).

The terms Spirit of God or Spirit of the Lord are used nearly 70 times in the Scripture in reference to the Holy Spirit. ut there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding (Job 32:8).

III. The Holy Spirit is described as having divine attributions of God.

A. Omnipresence: He is everywhere (Ps 139:7-12).

B. Omniscience: He knows everything (1 Cor. 2:9-10).

C. Omnipotent: He is all-powerful (Ps 104:30).

D. Eternal: He has no beginning or end (Heb. 9:1)

IV. The Holy Spirit is described as having the moral attributes of God.

A. Spirit of Love: "...by the love of the Spirit" (Romans 15:30).

B. Spirit of Holiness: "...through the Spirit of holiness" (Romans 1:4).

C. Spirit of Truth: "...the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive" (John 14:17).

V. The Holy Spirit is seen doing the works of God.

A. The Holy Spirit was involved in creation (Gen. 1:2; Job 33:4; Ps. 104:5-9).

B. The Holy Spirit imparts life and resurrection power (John 6:63; Rom. 8:11).

C. The Holy Spirit inspired prophecy and the Scriptures (2 Pet. 1:21; 2 Sam. 23:2; 2 Tim. 3:16).

D. The Holy Spirit gives new birth (John 3:2-5).

"And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets."

The Nicene Creed

LESSON 3

Understanding the Trinity

"Bring me a worm that can comprehend a man, and then I will show you a man who can comprehend the Triune God." John Wesley

The word *trinity* doesn't exist in the Bible, but the idea is found throughout the Scriptures.

The doctrine of the Trinity affirms that within One God, there exist three persons.

The doctrine of the Trinity reveals a relational God. All three Persons of the Trinity have the same essence, but each one has a different role in relating to the world. There is voluntary subordination in the Trinity; Scripture tells us that the Father "sent" the Son (John 6:57), and the Father and the Son "send" the Spirit (John 15:26), and the Spirit will "speak only what he hears" (John 16:13).

I. There is One God

A. "*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength"* (Deuteronomy 6:4).

The Hebrew word for one is echad (meaning a compound or collective unity), which is the very same word used to describe a husband and wife becoming "one" (Gen.2:24). Husband and wife are one, yet they are two distinct persons. The word echad is used in Ezra 3:1 in a larger sense: "People gathered together as one."

B. *Therefore You are great, O Lord GOD. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears* (2 Samuel 7:22).

C. *For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus* (1 Timothy 2:5).

D. *One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all* (Eph. 4:6).

E. *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* (Matthew 28:19).

Jesus said to baptize in the Name (that's one Being) of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

F. The great church father Tertullian first coined the word Trinity. Though the fathers of the church in the second and third centuries spoke of the three persons of the Godhead while recognizing that there is but one God, the councils of Nicea (A.D. 325) and Constantinople (A.D. 381) gave the fullest expression of confirmation to the biblical doctrine.

II. Three Persons

A. ***In Creation:*** Father spoke. Word went forth. Spirit moved.

The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light (Gen. 1:2-3).

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made (John 1:1-3).

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one (1 John 5:7).

B. ***Around the birth of Christ:*** Father sent. Son born. Spirit overshadowed.

But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit (Matt. 1:20).

He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David (Luke 1:32).

C. ***At the baptism of Christ:*** Father spoke. Jesus baptized. Spirit descended.

When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." (Luke 3:21-22).

D. ***In Christ's ministry:*** God anointed Jesus. Jesus anointed. Spirit was that anointing.

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him (Acts 10:38).

E. ***In the great commission:*** In the name of the Father. In the name of the Son. In the name of the Holy Spirit.

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. (Matthew 28:19).

F. ***At the exaltation of Christ:*** Father fulfilled the promise. Jesus received the promise. Spirit was given.

Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear (Acts 2:33).

G. ***At the receiving of the Gentiles:*** Access to the Father. Through Jesus. By the Spirit.

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father (Eph. 2:18).

H. ***At the martyrdom of Stephen:*** Full of Spirit. Saw Jesus at the right hand of God.

But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" (Acts 7:55-56).

I ***In His role in relation to the Church:*** Spirit gives gifts. Jesus gives ministries. God gives activities.

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all (1 Cor. 12:4-6).

J. ***In our spiritual growth:*** The love of God. The grace of Jesus. The fellowship of the Spirit.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen (2 Cor. 13:14).

K. ***In our salvation:*** Chosen by the Father. Sanctified by the Spirit. Sprinkled with the blood of Jesus.

*Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied (*1 Peter 1:2).

L. ***In our prayer:*** Strengthened by the Spirit. Know the love of Christ. Filled with the fullness of God.

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man (Eph. 3:14-16, 17-21).

III. Each person is fully God.

A. The Father is not ⅓ God, the Son is not ⅓ God, and the Spirit is not ⅓ God.
B. The Father is God (1 Peter 1:2).
C. The Son is God (John 1:1-2, 14, 20:28, Titus 2:13).
D. The Holy Spirit is God (Acts 5:3-4).
E. Two Heresies:
   1. *Modalism* - God exists in three "modes" but only one person.
   2. *Tritheism* – There are three gods, not one.

"God is Triune; there are within the Godhead three Persons; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and the work of salvation is one in which all three act together, the Father purposing redemption, the Son securing it, and the Spirit applying it. The Son is subject to the Father, for the Son is sent by the Father in the Father's Name. The Spirit is subject to the Father for the Spirit is sent by the Father in the Son's name. The Spirit is subject to the Son as well as to the Father, for the Spirit is sent by the Son as well as by the Father."

J.I. Packer

LESSON 4

The Holy Spirit is a Person

We can't have fellowship with the Holy Spirit if we view Him as a force instead of a friend, or power instead of a person.

I. The Holy Spirit refers to Himself with a personal pronoun.

As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (Acts 13:2).

While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them" (Acts 10:19-20).

Impersonal forces do not send men, speak or use personal pronouns in reference to their actions.

II. Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a person.

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you (John 16:7,8,13,14).

III. The Holy Spirit's work is to carry on the ministry of a person, the Lord Jesus Christ.

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 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 (John 14:16-17).

"Another Helper" refers to another of the same kind.

IV. The Holy Spirit has the three elements of personality.

A. The Holy Spirit has a mind: "...the mind of the Spirit" (Romans 8:27).
B. The Holy Spirit has a will: "...forbidden by the Spirit...the Spirit didn't permit them" (Acts 16:6-7).
C. The Holy Spirit has emotions: "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit" (Eph. 4:30).

V. The Holy Spirit performs actions that only a person can perform.

A. The Holy Spirit has a mind: "...the mind of the Spirit" (Romans 8:27).
B. He searches all things (1 Cor. 2:10).
C. He reveals or inspires (2 Pet. 1:21).
D. He teaches (John 14:26).
E. He cries (Gal. 4:6).
F. He intercedes (Rom. 8:26).
G. He calls and places men in service (Acts 13:2; 20:28).
H. He leads (Rom. 8:14).
I. He creates (Job 33:4).
J. He sanctifies (Rom. 15:16; 2 Th.2:13).
K. He helps (Rom.8:26).
L. He gives gifts (1 Cor. 12:7-11).
M. He works miracles (Acts 2:4; 8:39).
N. He bears witness (1 John 5:6).
O. He regenerates (John 3:5-6).
P. He guides into truth (John 16:13).
Q. He glorifies Christ (John 16:14).
R. He has communion (2 Cor. 13:14).
S. He speaks to the churches (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22).

VI. The Holy Spirit has personal feelings ascribed to Him.

He can be

- Grieved (Eph. 4:30).
- Rebelled against (Isa. 63:10).
- Insulted (Heb. 10:29).
- Lied to (Acts 5:3).
- Blasphemed (Mt. 12:31-32).
- Resisted (Acts 7:51).
- Put to the test (Acts 5:9).
- Quenched (1 Thess. 5:19).
- Provoked (Ps. 106:33).
- Pleased (Acts 15:28).

VII. The Holy Spirit is associated with the Father and the Son, who are persons

(Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 16:14; 1 John 5:7).

VIII. The Holy Spirit is a person because moral goodness is ascribed to Him.

You also gave Your good Spirit to instruct them, and did not withhold Your manna from their mouth, and gave them water for their thirst (Neh. 9:20).

Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness (Psalm 143:10).

So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God" (Matt. 19:17).

THE NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

God (Acts 5:3-4)

Spirit of God (Gen. 1:2)

Spirit of the Lord (Judg. 3:10)

Spirit of the Lord God (Isa. 61:1)

Spirit of the Living God (2 Cor. 3:3)

Spirit of the Father (Matt. 10:20)

Holy Spirit of God (Eph. 4:30)

Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:6-7 NIV)

Spirit of Christ (Rom. 8:9)

Spirit of Jesus Christ (Phil 1:19)

Spirit of His Son (Gal. 4:6)

Breath of the Almighty (Job 32:8 ASV; 33:4)

The Power of the Highest (Luke 1:35)

Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 8:11; 1 Pet. 3:18)

The Finger of God (Luke 11:20)

Lesson 5

Symbols of the Holy Spirit

I. The Dove

When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased" (Luke 3:21-22).

A. The first reference to the Holy Spirit in the Bible implies a bird (Gen. 1:2). The Hebrew word for hovered over is a depiction of a bird sitting on a nest of eggs to warm them to life.[3]
B. Dove in Noah's ark (Gen. 8:6-12; the dove is looking for a resting place = heart).
C. The natural attributes of a dove are gentleness, faithfulness, purity, and a symbol of peace (Matt. 10:16; Song 1:15; 2:14; 5:12).

II. The Fire

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire (Matt. 3:11).

A. Fire purifies gold, silver, and precious stones (2 Cor. 3:12-15).
B. Fires cause things to heat up (Isa. 64:1-2).
C. Fire gives light to our path (Ps. 78:14; 2 Cor. 2:9- 10; Eph. 1:17-18).

III. The Wind

The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8).

A. The wind is invisible and sovereign (John 3:8; 14:17).
B. The wind is mysterious (John 3:8; Eccl. 11:4-5).
C. The wind is powerful (Acts 2:2; 1:8).

3. https://biblehub.com/commentaries/genesis/1-2.htm

IV. The Oil

The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed (Luke 4:18).

A. Anointing symbolizes consecration. Prophets, kings and priests were anointed (Ex.40:15; Num. 3:3; 1 Sam. 9:16; 10:1; 1 Kings 1:34-39).
B. Anointing enables us to do God's will with Spirit's power (Acts 10:38).
C. Anointing is to preach, heal, and set the captives free.

V. The Water

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified (John 7:38-39).

A. Water brings refreshing and satisfying (Isa. 44:3)
B. Water washes and cleanses.
C. Water brings fruitfulness.

VI. The Seal

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, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory (Eph. 1:13-14).

A. A seal is a stamp of authenticity. It's like a modern-day signature.
B. An earnest is a down payment. It's like putting a downpayment on the house you are intending to purchase (2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5).

3. https://biblehub.com/commentaries/genesis/1-2.htm

Spirit of Understanding (Isa. 11:2)

Spirit of Counsel and Might (Isa. 11:2)

Spirit of Knowledge and the Fear of the Lord (Isa. 11:2)

Spirit of Grace and Supplication (Zech. 12:10; Heb. 10:29)

Spirit of Judgment (Isa. 4:4)

Spirit of Burning (Isa. 4:4)

Spirit of Holiness (Rom. 1:4)

Spirit of Love (2 Tim. 1:7)

Spirit of Adoption (Rom. 8:15)

Spirit of Truth (John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13; 1 John 4:6)

Spirit of Life (Rom. 8:2)

Spirit of Promise (Eph. 1:13; Gal. 3:14)

Spirit of Glory (1 Pet. 4:14)

Comforter (John 14:16)

Anointing from the Holy One (1 John 2:20, 27)

Lesson 6

Indwelling and Outpouring

"As soon as we see the Lord Jesus on the cross, we know our sins are forgiven; and as soon as we see the Lord Jesus on the throne, we know the Holy Spirit has been poured out upon us. The basis upon which we receive the enduement of the Holy Spirit is not our praying and fasting and waiting, but the exaltation of Christ." Watchman Nee

But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified (John 7:39).

I. The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

A. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit was prophesied.

I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them (Ezek. 36:27).

B. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit promised.

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 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. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you (John 14:16-18).

C. The condition for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).

a) Condition: Repent and be baptized.

b) Promise: Forgiveness of sins and receiving the Holy Spirit.

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 (Romans 8:9).

Or 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? (1 Cor. 6:19).

II. The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

A. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was prophesied by Joel.

And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions (Joel 2:28).

B. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was predicted by John.

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire (Matthew 3:11).

C. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was promised by Jesus.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

D. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit is proof that Jesus is exalted.

This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear (Acts 2:32-36).

E. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit brings power.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

F. The Spirit was poured out in Jerusalem (Acts 2:1-13); Samaria (Acts 8:14-17); House of Cornelius (Acts 10:44-48; 11:15-17); Ephesus (Acts 19:1-6).

"...and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear"(Acts 2:32).

- *Notice the* words "Which you now see and hear." In all the places where the outpouring of the Spirit happened, there was speaking in tongues.
- *The i*ndwelling of the Spirit is private and invisible.
  The outpouring of the Spirit is public and visible.

Charles Finney on the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

"I received a mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost without any expectation of it, without ever having the thought in my mind that there was any such thing for me, without my recollection that I had ever heard the thing mentioned by any person in the world, the Holy Spirit descended upon me in a manner that seemed to go through me body and soul. No words can express the wonderful love that was shed abroad in my heart. I wept aloud with joy and love." [4]

D.L. Moody on the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

"I was crying all the time that God would fill me with his Spirit. Well, one day, in the city of New York—oh, what a day!—I cannot describe it, I seldom refer to it; it is almost too sacred an experience to name. Paul had an experience of which he never spoke for fourteen years. I can only say that God revealed himself to me, and I had such an experience of his love that I had to ask him to stay his hand. I went preaching again. The sermons were not different; I did not present any new truths; and yet hundreds were converted. I would not now be placed back where I was before that blessed experience if you should give me all the world—it would be as the small dust of the balance." [5]

R.A. Torrey on the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

"I recall the exact spot where I was kneeling in prayer in my study...It was a very quiet moment, one of the most quiet moments I ever knew....Then God simply said to me, not in any audible voice, but in my heart, 'It's yours. Now go and preach.' He had already said it to me in His Word in 1 John 5:14, 15; but I did not then know my Bible as I know it now, and God had pity on my ignorance and said it directly to my soul....I went and preached, and I have been a new minister from that day to this.... Some time after this experience (I do not recall just how long after), while sitting in my room one day...suddenly...I found myself shouting (I was not brought up to shout and I am not of a shouting temperament, but I shouted like the loudest shouting Methodist), 'Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God,' and I could not stop....But that was not when I was baptized with the Holy Spirit. I was baptized with the Holy Spirit when I took him by simple faith in the...Word of God." [6]

4. "The Autobiography of Charles G. Finney : Finney, Charles G., 1792-1875 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming." Internet Archive, Minneapolis : Bethany Fellowship, 1 Jan. 1977, archive.org/details/autobiographyofc0000finn.

5. "The Life of Dwight L. Moody, by His Son : Moody, William R. (William Revell), 1869-1933 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming." Internet Archive, New York : Fleming H. Revell, 1 Jan. 1970, archive.org/details/thelifeofdwightl00mooduoft/page/n157/mode/2up.

6. "The Holy Spirit : Who He Is and What He Does : Torrey, R. A : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming." Internet Archive, New York : Fleming H. Revell Company, 1 Jan. 1970, archive.org/details/holyspiritwhohei0000torr/mode/2up.

Lesson 7

Ways the Holy Spirit Helps a Believer

The Holy Spirit is the manifest (active) presence of God on earth. He works through the Body of Christ so Christ is glorified by strengthening and equipping believers. It is important to realize that the Holy Spirit works through those people (all believers) He is promised to. He strengthens believers for further sanctification and service.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (Romans 8:26).

In the Gospel of John (14:16, 26, 15:26 and 16:7) the original Greek and Aramaic manuscripts use the words *paraclete* and paraqleta in reference to the Holy Spirit.[7] The translation to the English language is a counselor who stands by and advocates for others, similar to a defense attorney. The indwelling power of the Holy Spirit manifests in the lives of believers as:

- **Encourager.**
- **Helper**
- **Teacher.**
- **Comforter.**
- **Strengthener.**
- **Standby.**
- **Counselor.**
- **Redeemer.**
- **Defender.**
- **Friend.**
- **Intercessor.**
- **Advocate.**
- **Advisor.**

While none of these words are adequate to fully describe Holy Spirit, they do paint a word picture that allows us to see how He works within the lives of believers. The blood of Jesus provides believers the authority (the right) to ask the Holy Spirit to help in any of these areas.

7 .https://biblehub.com/greek/3875.htm

I. The Holy Spirit makes us holy.

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:13).

II. The Holy Spirit transforms us into the image of Christ.

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord (2 Cor. 3:18).

III. The Holy Spirit renews the believer.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5).

IV. The Holy Spirit produces a Christ-like attitude.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law (Gal. 5:22-23).

V. The Holy Spirit strengthens the believer in the inner person.

That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man (Eph. 3:16).

VI. The Holy Spirit speaks to the believer.

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot" (Acts 8:29).

VII. The Holy Spirit leads the believer.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God (Romans 8:14).

VIII. The Holy Spirit teaches the believer.

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 (John 16:13).

IX. The Holy Spirit reveals the deep things of God to the believer.

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God (1 Cor. 2:10).

X. The Holy Spirit reveals the future to the believer.

And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ (Luke 2:26).

Except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me (Acts 20:23).

XI. The Holy Spirit prays for us.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (Romans 8:26).

XII. The Holy Spirit inspires the believer's worship.

For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh (Phil. 3:3).

XIII. The Holy Spirit comforts.

Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied (Acts 9:31).

XIV. The Holy Spirit seals the believer.

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 (Eph. 1:13).

XV. The Holy Spirit teaches how to answer persecutors.

But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit (Mark 13:11).

XVI. The Holy Spirit gives power to our witness.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

XVII. The Holy Spirit convicts us.

And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged (John 16:8-11).

XVIII. The Holy Spirit abides with us forever.

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever (John 14:16).

"If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference."

A.W. Tozer

Lesson 8

Sins Against the Holy Spirit

For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things. (Acts 15:28).

Our goal is to live our lives in such a way that what we do seems GOOD TO THE HOLY SPIRIT!

I. We can grieve the Holy Spirit.

A. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption (Eph. 4:30).

B. The word for *grieve* [8] in this passage literally means "to make sorry, to cause heaviness or sadness, or to offend."

C. We grieve the Holy Spirit when we do the following (Eph. 4):

- *Lie to one another (v. 25).*
- *Hold on to anger (v. 26-27).*
- *Defraud one another (v. 28).*
- *Speak evil about one another (v. 29, 31).*

II. We can vex the Holy Spirit.

A. *But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; so He turned Himself against them as an enemy, and He fought against them* (Isa. 63:10).

B. The word used for "rebelled" in this passage also means to be contentious and disobedient. [9] The word used for "grieved" means to "to hurt, to vex, to cause pain, to torture." [10]

C. We vex the Holy Spirit when we are persisting in a lifestyle of disobedience.

III. We can lie to the Holy Spirit.

A. But Peter said, "*Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?*" (Acts 5:3).

B. When we make a commitment to God but don't make good on that promise, it can be a lie to the Holy Spirit.

8. https://biblehub.com/greek/3076.htm
9. https://biblehub.com/hebrew/4784.htm
10. https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6087.htm

IV. We can resist the Holy Spirit.

A. You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you (Acts 7:51).
B. The word *stiff-necked* [11] means "stubborn, obstinate and headstrong." The word resist means "to strive against, oppose or be adverse to."
C. When we reject the messengers (prophets, pastors, etc.) that God sends, we resist God's Spirit.

V. We can harden our hearts against the Holy Spirit.

A. Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness" (Hebrews 3:7-8).
B. Even though the Holy Spirit is trying to do His work in our lives, we can harden our hearts so that His voice is no longer heard by us.
C. The more you harden your heart, the harder it becomes and the more difficult it is to turn around.
D. Hard hearts and disbelief can block the power of God from working in our lives, families, churches, and communities (Matt 13:58, Mark 6:5-6).
E. Pharaoh is an example of a man who resisted the work of the Holy Spirit and became a vessel of dishonor (Ex. 5:1-2, 9; 7:3-4, 22; 8:15, 32; 9:7, 12, 35; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4, 8).

VI. We can insult or despise the Holy Spirit.

A. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? (Heb. 10:29).
B. Don't return to your sin only after you have been pulled out by the work of the Holy Spirit.
C. Insulting the Spirit is knowing the truth and rejecting the truth and willfully sinning.

VII. We can quench the Holy Spirit.

A. Do not quench the Spirit (1 Thess. 5:19).
B. The word for quench in the Bible always refers to the extinguishing of a flame. [12]
C. The Holy Spirit is the flame in our lives. The Holy Spirit is the "Spirit of Burning" who lights our flame and inspires our service (see Isa. 4:4).
D. The Holy Spirit wants to move in our lives. He is constantly urging or prompting us to action. We want to be those who follow those promptings.

11. https://biblehub.com/greek/4644.htm

VIII. We can blaspheme against the Holy Spirit.

A. And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven (Luke 12:10).

B. If we continually harden our hearts to the work of the Holy Spirit, there could come a day when we are no longer able to respond.
   - *God eventually will give people over to their own lusts* (Rom. 1:18-32).
   - *God's Spirit will not always strive with men* (Gen. 6:3).

C. Anyone crediting the devil with miracles done by the power of the Holy Spirit is danger of blasphemy.

D. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is a knowledgeable and deliberate sin, not a sin of ignorance.

E. Paul spoke of his own experience in this area (1 Tim. 1:12-13).

12. https://biblehub.com/greek/4570.htm

An Introduction to the Holy Spirit *Discussion Questions*

LESSON 1

The Holy Spirit

Icebreaker

How much do you currently know about the Holy Spirit? Who is He to you?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. How would you describe the Holy Spirit to a on-believer?
2. What does it mean to be born of the Spirit?
   And what does a life born of the Spirit look like for you?
3. What is the Holy Spirit's job?

Memory Verse:

The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life (Job 33:4).

LESSON 2

The Holy Spirit is God

Icebreaker

How did you first learn about the Holy Spirit?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. According to the Bible, how is the Holy Spirit God?
2. How have you seen the Holy Spirit's activity in your life?
3. What makes the Holy Spirit unique?

Memory Verse:

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one (1 John 5:7-8).

LESSON 3

Understanding the Trinity

Icebreaker

Do you remember your first experience with the Holy Spirit?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. How are the jobs of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit different, but intertwined?
2. Why is it crucial for a believer in Christ to understand this concept and be able to explain it?
3. In your own words, how would you describe the Trinity? What are some common mistakes made when describing the Trinity?

Memory Verse:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength (Deuteronomy 6:4).

LESSON 4

The Holy Spirit is a Person

Icebreaker

Think about your day-to-day life. Do you have fellowship with the Holy Spirit? If so, what does that look like?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. According to the Bible, what makes the Holy Spirit a Person?
2. How can you get to know the Holy Spirit in a greater way in your life today?
3. Why is it so important for a believer to have the Holy Spirit? Why is knowing Him as a Person so powerful?

Memory Verse:

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you (John 16:7).

LESSON 5

Symbols of the Holy Spirit

Icebreaker

How have you recently seen the Holy Spirit work in your life?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What does Matthew 3:11 mean?
   (He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire.)
2. Why is the anointing of the Holy Spirit so important for a believer?
3. How are water, fire, and oil symbols of the Holy Spirit??

Memory Verse:

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one (1 John 5:7-8).

LESSON 6

Indwelling and Outpouring

Icebreaker

How would you explain the difference between the Holy Spirit being inside a person vs. upon them?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What are the requirements for the Holy Spirit to live within someone? Is "living in the Spirit" (Romans 8:9) the same thing?
2. If you're a believer but don't speak in tongues, does that mean you don't have the Holy Spirit? What could it mean?
3. Why should a believer desire both the indwelling and the infilling? Have you experienced both?

Memory Verse:

And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions (Joel 2:28).

LESSON 7

The Way He Helps

Icebreaker

What's a memorable example of a time where you relied on the Holy Spirit for help?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. In what areas has the Holy Spirit helped you to grow spiritually?
2. What is the evidence of the Holy Spirit's help in your character/life? What areas of your character do you still need to surrender to Him?
3. Explain the difference between conviction and condemnation.

Memory Verse:

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (Romans 8:26).

LESSON 8

Sins Against the Holy Spirit

Icebreaker

What do you think the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is?

Watch Video

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What are ways that we can grieve the Holy Spirit?
   Have you ever felt like you've done so?
2. How can we guard ourselves from sinning against the Holy Spirit?
3. What are some practical ways you can make sure you remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit?

Memory Verse:

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one (1 John 5:7-8).

Vladimir Savchuk serves as the lead pastor of HungryGen Church, a vibrant multi-cultural congregation dedicated to soul-winning, healing, deliverance, and the raising up of young leaders. In addition to pastoring, Vladimir extends his ministry through the written word and digital media as an accomplished author, YouTuber, and traveling preacher. He also offers free E-Courses through his online learning platform, VladSchool, making theology and Christian living accessible to a global audience.

Vladimir's journey began in Ukraine, where he was born into a devout Christian household. Moving to the United States at the age of 13, his calling manifested early when he took on the role of a youth pastor at just 16 years of age. His dynamic style and deep understanding of Scripture quickly made him a sought-after speaker at various conferences and Christian gatherings.

Sharing life and ministry with his wonderful wife Lana, Vladimir embodies a dynamic approach to leadership and the preaching of God's Word, enriching lives both in his immediate community and well beyond.

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