

Souls for Christ Ministries Presents: New Believer's Lessons

Lesson #5 The Gifts and Works of the Holy Spirit

In this lesson you will learn:

- Who the Holy Spirit is & what he is like
- About the Baptism in the Holy Spirit
- About the Gifts of the Spirit

Who is the **Holy Spirit** and what are the roles of the Holy Spirit? How does the Holy Spirit work in our lives?

Who is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is not an object, a being or a force. He is a person.

He is the 3rd person of the Trinity who has special characteristics and functions that demonstrate his personality.

Ephesians 4:30 says: *“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God...”* indicating his presence can be rejected. The Holy Spirit is not a physical being but a Spirit. The Greek language uses the word pneuma meaning Spirit. Although referred to as He, the Holy Spirit is genderless and not limited to a body. He is everywhere because He is God.

The Holy Spirit lives within us or dwells within the heart of the Believer.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 says: *“Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?”*

He also serves as a seal in our lives, a seal of ownership that we belong to God.

Ephesians 1:13 says: *“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit.”*

2 Corinthians 1:22 says: *“...set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.”*

He makes us a new creation in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says: *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”*

What are the attributes of the Holy Spirit?

1. **Knowledge** **1 Corinthians 2:10b** says: *“The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.”*
2. **Emotion** **Ephesians 4:30** says: *“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”*
3. **A Will** **1 Corinthians 12:11** says: *“All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.”*
4. **Omnipotence** (having power to do anything) **Rom 15:19a** says: *“by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit.”*

5. **Omniscience** (knowing everything) **1 Corinthians 2:11** says: *“For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him.”*
6. **Omnipresence** (present everywhere at the same time)
Psalm 139:7-8 says: *“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.”*

Areas where the Holy Spirit Works

In Creation **Genesis 1:2** says: *“Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”*
The Holy Spirit is part of the creation of the world.

In the Unsaved/Unconverted He convicts us of sin and reveals Jesus Christ making us aware of his presence and our need of God.

In the Old Testament He enables mankind to carry out God’s work and gives us the knowledge that God is directing us.

In the Life of Jesus Jesus birth was by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit led him into the wilderness to be tempted. Jesus resisted the temptation in the power of the Spirit and did many miracles and mighty works as he walked in the Spirit.

In the Church He launched the church on the Day of Pentecost. He guided the church, protected it, and allowed the Apostles to walk in the power of the Spirit.
Acts 1:8 says: *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

How the Holy Spirit Works in the Life of the Believer

1. He brings spiritual life. Unless we are born of the Spirit and water there is no life.
John 3:3 says: *“In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”*
2. He dwells in us. **2 Corinthians 1:22** says: ...*“set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.”*
3. He assures us of our Salvation. **Romans 8:16** says: *“The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit we are God’s children.”*
4. He sanctifies us. **1 Corinthians 6:11** says: *“And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified ...”*
5. He empowers us for service. **Acts 1:8** says: *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*
6. He adopts us as His children. **Romans. 8:15** says: *“For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship...”*

How the Holy Spirit Works in the Life of the Believer (continued)

7. He guides us. **Galatians 5:25** says: *“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*
8. He fellowships with us. **John 14:16** says: *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever.”*
9. He anoints us to minister to others. **Luke 4:18** says: *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed.”*
10. He teaches us all things. **John 14: 26** says: *“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”*
11. He brings freedom. **2 Corinthians 3:17** says: *“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”*

Baptisms that Involve the Holy Spirit

Baptism into Christ

This happens when the Holy Spirit makes you aware of your need of Christ. Upon confession of sin and believing on the name of Jesus you become born again.

God by his Holy Spirit plants a new kingdom in you. This kingdom consists of light and truth. This birth is often referred to as a spiritual birth, not done by the hands of man, but by the Spirit.

Read **John 3:3-8** He makes us alive spiritually.

Romans 6:23 says: *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

- When you are baptized into Christ you become a new creation. All things from our old life are now gone. All things are made new.
A new creation also means you are a citizen of a new land. You have died to the old life you lived and willfully choose to live a new life as a Christian or a Christ follower.
Read **2 Corinthians 5:17-20**
- Now that the Holy Spirit lives in you, you are a temple of the Holy Spirit. You have been set apart to God and made holy.
Read **1 Corinthians 6:19**
- The Holy Spirit is guaranteed. He sets his seal of ownership on us. We now belong to him.
Read **2 Corinthians 1:22**
- Our salvation is firm in Christ, and our position cannot be changed now that we are saved unless we change it.
Read **James 5:19-20**

Water Baptism

Water baptism symbolizes our old sinful life has gone and a new spiritual life has come. The book of Acts says once they were baptized, they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Read **Acts 10:47** and **Acts 19:5**

Acts 8:14-17 illustrates that everyone who was baptized in water had already been converted or saved.

Upon receiving our Salvation, we can conclude that as a step of faith and obedience, we should follow Christ in the waters of baptism. Our sins are washed away and the old life in its entirety is forgiven. We receive a new spiritual position. We are now alive in Christ. In water baptism, we are identifying with Christ that the old life has gone and the new life has come.

Read **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Water baptism symbolizes our old sinful life has gone and a new spiritual life has come. The book of Acts says once they were baptized, they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Water baptism should always be full immersion following the example Jesus demonstrated in the Gospels.

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

This is a clearly identifiable or understandable experience in which the believer yields to the Holy Spirit and is totally engulfed or fully surrenders to him and speaks in tongues as evidence of his presence. Read **Acts 2:4**

The baptism in the Holy Spirit teaches us to fully yield to God and is an experience that follows Salvation or conversion. Most often it occurs after water baptism as illustrated earlier.

This baptism is key because it deepens our relationship with Christ. It is said to be an experience in which our whole being comes into contact with the Holy Spirit.

The word **bapto** (baptism in the Greek language) comes from a root word meaning to drench or to soak or pour down. In the same sense, when the Holy Spirit comes upon us, he totally soaks or saturates our being in his presence. If you are baptized by the Holy Spirit, basically **you will know it**.

A major difference from being baptized into Christ and the baptism in the Holy Spirit is quantity.

What the Bible says about Speaking in Other Tongues & their relation to the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:4 says: *“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”*

This is at Pentecost when the disciples were gathered in the upper room. They were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 10:46 says: *“For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.”*

Peter saw the Holy Spirit poured out, even on the Gentiles and they all spoke in other tongues.

Note ☞ The initial evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is speaking with other tongues and as a result will bring an increased desire to live for Christ. For every instance of the baptism in the Holy Spirit described in the Bible, speaking in tongues has accompanied it as evidence when those who were filled gathered together as a group or body of believers.

The Gifts of the Spirit; Who Receives Them and Why?

First we must remember that a gift is something that is free. It cannot be earned.

Definition of the Gifts of the Spirit

The gifts of the Spirit are given to the church for an occasional unusual ability given by God enabling a person to minister effectively and directly to a particular situation, or to meet a need in a specific moment.

An example may be a weakness, or a trial or pain in someone's life.

You don't have to be a special person, or have certain abilities or talents. The gifts are given to anyone that seeks God for them. No one possesses the gifts, they are bestowed upon us for the good of others.

The Purposes of the Gifts of the Spirit

- To help build up the body of Christ for the common good, meeting the needs of others. No two gifts are the same. Read: **1 Corinthians 12:28**
- The gifts listed in **1 Corinthians 12:4-11** are not only for the church, but should be used to meet all human need.
- Without the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, it is impossible to or almost impossible to flow in the Gifts of the Spirit.
- God may use us in the gifts of His Spirit. Though we move in them, we do not possess the gift. All the gifts belong to our Creator.
- The gifts are always related to need and God acts through an individual to meet needs through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Gifts of the Spirit Listed in **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 says: *“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.*

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

All of these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.”

The Word of Wisdom

This is a gift of behavior, a word that demands an action to be taken. It is an utterance of our spirit.

The Gift of Knowledge

This is information that a person finds himself or herself with that they could not have received without the Holy Spirit revealing it to them directly. It is knowledge of the Spirit to meet the needs of others through an encouraging word or word of knowledge about a particular situation.

The Gift of Faith

The gift of faith is a gift God bestows on a person enabling them to believe God for a supernatural need no matter the situation. They believe God will hear and always respond to a particular miracle, or need no matter what. God's Spirit enables faith to rise above the circumstance allowing the person to believe the answer is on the way.

The Gift of Healing

This is the ability God gives to restore wholeness and healing to another person in need of divine healing. This is a plural gift as recorded in **1 Corinthians 12:9**. Simply put, this gift is administered in many different ways as the Lord enables.

Note: the healing will not always be the same.

The Gift of Miracles

God is not bound to the laws of Nature as we are, so from time to time God will use someone to do extra-ordinary acts to express Himself. Those acts could include touching a person in need of healing instantaneously or meeting a need supernaturally.

The Gift of Prophecy

Prophecy is a word that is delivered in regular language spoken, by the Spirit of the Lord through a surrendered heart. He speaks to meet a particular need. The Holy Spirit prompts a person to speak directly on God's behalf.

Note: that prophecy is not a means of guidance, but a confirmation to the will of God.

Prophecy is God sending a message to speak a word into the situation that will help guide in the right direction. Prophecy is never equal to or should be accepted above the Living Word of God. It should always agree with and confirm what has already been said and done.

The Gift of Discerning the Spirits

This is the unusual ability to perceive a spiritual source of behavior, present or beyond.

There are always three voices at work when we are discerning the spirits.

1. God 2. Devil 3. Humanity The Bible says to test the Spirits in **1 John 4:1**.

Important things to understand in discerning the spirits are:

Character → Who is the person speaking?

Content → Compare it with the Word!

Witness → Does it rest in our Spirit?

The Gift of Tongues

This is speech in an unlearned language through which the church receives ministry.

- The ministry of tongues in a church setting must be interpreted.
Read **1 Corinthians 14:13-16**
- There are three different tongues used.
 1. Tongues to be interpreted. Read: **1 Corinthians 14:13**
 2. Tongues to edify and build up the church. Tongues used in a context to edify others and meet their need as the Spirit enables.
 3. Tongues that are a sign for unbelievers and not for believers.
Read **1 Corinthians 14:22-25**

The Gift of Divine Healing

This is a gift God gave the church to bring complete restoration of health by direct intervention. Even natural healing is dependent on God,

Healing has and always will come through the cross of Christ. Illness and sickness are direct results of the fall of man in the Garden of Eden. Read **Genesis 3 & on**.

There are 28 accounts of Christ healing in the New Testament.

Read **1 Corinthians 12:9-10**

Faith is key in the progressive or instantaneous process of divine healing.

Sometimes there is faith, but as with the gift of healing, it's only Spirit enabled.

All healing is supernatural, and flows out of great faith in God's ability to do what he says he will do.

Note: The list of gifts in **I Corinthians 12:1-11** is not an exhaustive list. The gifts mentioned are the main categories that most fall under in studying the gifts of the Spirit.

How God Uses Us in the Gifts:

- Surrender to God
- Pray. Learn to ask God boldly.
- Have faith that He can use you in the gifts.
- Be open and surrender to the Holy Spirit.
- Do not grieve God's Spirit. Read **Ephesians 4:22**

Learn the leading of the Lord. If He prompts your heart do it immediately or eventually His promptings become less noticeable. Learn to trust and obey.

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