

I. THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- A. As the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit takes of the things that Jesus has accomplished on the cross and applies them to us.

John 16:15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

1. e.g. God the Father initiates (v. 1). The Spirit is hovering over the waters (v. 2). The Lord Jesus is the Word Who is spoken (vs. 3) cf. Col. 1:16.

Genesis 1:1-3 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² 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. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

2. The Holy Spirit is a person, not an "it" or a force. He can be grieved (Eph. 4:30), quenched (1 Thes. 5:19), or resisted (Ac. 7:51). The HS is now the primary manifestation of the presence of the Trinity among us. He is the one who is most prominently present with us now. The Holy Spirit's work is to complete and sustain what God the Father planned and God the Son has begun.

- B. At the new birth, the Holy Spirit comes to live in our spirit as a real Person. The uncreated life of God dwelling in us is the core reality of the new birth. The new birth is much more than being forgiven. The glory of the New Covenant is that at our new birth, the Spirit makes us one spirit with God. (John 3:5-8; 1 Cor. 6:17; John 14:17)

NASB 1 Cor. 6:17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

John 14:17 You know Him (Holy Spirit), for He dwells with you and will be in you.

- C. We are called to live by the Spirit, not by the flesh.

NASB Galatians 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

1. When we pay attention primarily to our flesh, we neglect the Spirit. We are aware of when we are hungry, when we are upset, when we are uncomfortable, etc.. We neglect, ignore our spirit, and thus, we neglect and ignore the Holy Spirit, to Whom we are joined.

Luke 1:80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel.

2. This is where disciplines like fasting is helpful. It forces us to not meet the unending demands of the flesh. The flesh begins to scream for attention. It is amazing how giving up a cheese burger can help us draw near to God faster.

NASB Romans 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace

II. FIVE PRACTICAL WAYS TO FELLOWSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Principle: we walk in the Spirit by talking with the Spirit. The fundamental way to walk in the Spirit is by maintaining an active dialogue with the indwelling Spirit. This is key to our renewal and transformation. It is so simple that many miss it.

A. **“THANK YOU”**

We recognize the Spirit’s presence in us simply by thanking Him for it. (2 Cor. 3:18; John 14:17)

Jn. 14:17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

B. **“RELEASE REVELATION”**

We are asking the Holy Spirit to release revelation of God’s heart, word and purpose to you (Eph. 1:17-19)

C. **“USE ME”**

We thank the Holy Spirit for His power to minister to others. *“Thank you, Holy Spirit, for Your gifts and for Your desire to release them in me. Lord, lead me; in my speech (Ps. 141:3), into divine appointments/opportunities (Rom. 8:14), and away from Satan’s traps/temptations. Spirit, I love Your will and ways, therefore, manifest Your leadership in me.”* (1 Cor. 12:7; Rom. 8:14)

1 Cor. 12:7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

D. **“STRENGTHEN ME”**

“Holy Spirit, Living Flame of Love, thank you for Your indestructible love, peace, patience, and self-control.”

1. A common misunderstanding is to try to overcome the flesh by fighting it in the power of the flesh. Our focus and fellowship needs to be on the HS, not on darkness.

2. The Holy Spirit empowers our emotions. The emotional resources of the Spirit or the power of God on our emotions has 9 different facets.

NASB Galatians 5:16, 19, 22-23 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh...²² But the fruit (result) of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law..

3. We need to focus on the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit in our war against sin. Many put their primary focus on the necessity of denying sinful desires. We remove darkness by turning on the light.

NASB Romans 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.

E. **“TEACH ME”** “Consuming Fire, teach me Your ways. I love Your ways and Your thoughts.”

John 14:26 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. (cf. 1 John 2:27)