



THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Week 1)

Opening Song (if you are able): *Holy Spirit (Jesus Culture)*

Opening Question: What comes to mind when you hear the words "Holy Spirit"?

Introduction:

The Holy Spirit is a part of the Holy Trinity with the Father and Son. In the Old Testament the Hebrew word, ruwach, pronounced roo'-akh) was used when talking about the Spirit. This word literally means **WIND**, even the wind associated with a **BREATH!** In the New Testament the Greek word pneuma, pronounced pnyoo'-mah, was used which means the **BREATH** or a **BREEZE!** We can literally think of the Holy Spirit as the **"Breath of God!"** Most Christians today understand Jesus the Son, and God the Father as two very distinct Persons within the Godhead; however, there has been much confusion over the identity of the Holy Spirit.

Omnipotent – All powerful (ability to create). *Luke 1:35*

Omnipresent – At all places at once. *Psalms 139:7*

Omniscient – All knowing. *1 Corinthians 2:10*

Eternal - *Hebrews 9:14*

Equal - *Acts 5:3-4*

Four important principles to remember:

- 1) The Holy Spirit is God, but He is a Person, not a force.
- 2) We cannot focus on the Holy Spirit too much. Why? What is the Holy Spirit's mission? *John 16:13*
To reveal Jesus. What is Jesus mission...to reveal the Father. What about the Father...to send Jesus and the Holy Spirit so we can come to Him. God is a Perfect Harmony. They never had a crisis management meeting in Heaven. They never tried to sit down and work things out. They never had a power struggle amongst themselves.
- 3) The Holy Spirit gives gifts for use in ministry and empowers effective ministry.
- 4) The Holy Spirit is a distinct Person within the Godhead, not a force, a thing, or an "it"

Qualities that a person has...(a force or thing does not)

- 1) The Holy Spirit has intellect. *1 Corinthians 2:10.*
- 2) The Holy Spirit has knowledge. *1 Corinthians 2:11.*
- 3) The Holy Spirit has emotions. *Ephesians 4:30.*
- 4) The Holy Spirit has his own will and he makes decisions. *Acts 16:6.*
- 5) The Holy Spirit Loves. *Romans 15:30.*

Things only a person would do (a force or thing does not)

- 1) He teaches you things about God and yourself. *John 14:26.*
- 2) He tells the truth. *John 15:26.*
- 3) He guides. *John 16:13.*
- 4) He convinces. *John 16:8.*
- 5) He prays for you. *Romans 8:26-27.*
- 6) He commands. *Acts 13:2.*

The Holy Spirit was part of all things, from the very beginning of scripture to the very end of scripture *Genesis 1:1-2.*

The Holy Spirit is involved in REVEALING GRACE TO US AND ADMINISTERING OUR NEW CREATION.

- 1) The Holy Spirit gave us the Word of God. *2 Peter 1:20-21.*
- 2) The Holy Spirit allows our spirit to be reborn (made alive) when we accept Jesus Christ into our life. *John 3:6.*
- 3) The Holy Spirit causes us to grow in our faith (Guidance *John 16:13-14*, Ministry *Ephesians 1:19-20* & *Acts 1:8*)

It is important to understand the Holy Spirit is truly God because of the fact that if we are born again He lives in us.

What we allow ourselves to be part of we are inviting God to be part of. *1 Corinthians 6:19*

Questions for Reflection

1. Describe how the Holy Spirit is divine?
2. How can we know that He is not just an energy source? Does the Bible give us clues?
3. Why is what Jesus said about the Spirit (*John 14:16, 26*) so important for understanding the personal nature of the Holy Spirit?
4. What are some of the ways that the Bible gives personal treatment to the Holy Spirit?
5. Discuss some of the names and titles of the Spirit. What do they tell you about who the Holy Spirit is? In what ways do they give you insight into His nature?