

## Holy Spirit Study

Adapted from Holy Spirit by Ron Matsen

### I. Character of the Holy Spirit

- The mental and moral qualities distinctive to an individual.
- Character is who you are.

### b. Perception of God

- Polytheistic: many gods (e.g. Egyptian, Romans, etc)
- Monotheistic: one god
  1. Hebrews worshipped one God. Deut 6:4
  2. Christianity: Trinitarian monotheism (sounds contradictory)
    - a. God the Father: unseen authority in the Bible: John 1:18
      - i. Jesus' actions are in submission to God the Father
    - b. Person of God that is revealed to man = Son = Jesus
      - i. Every time there is a vision and a person is seen = Jesus
    - c. God the Spirit: presence of God in the world today. Most difficult to grasp and understand. Even in New Testament times: Acts 19:2 Paul asked disciples did you receive the Holy Ghost after believing and they answered that they have not heard of the Holy Spirit.
      - i. Old Testament: "Ruach" = breath or Spirit
      - ii. New Testament "Numa" = wind or Spirit
      - iii. Both create effect but cannot be seen
      - iv. Holy Spirit is not an "It". Can't bring it back from somewhere.

- Person of the Holy Spirit: Defense of his Deity and Revelation of his Attributes (characteristic of a person)

#### 1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God

- a. In Hebrew. Many of the words supplied by translators.
- b. The LORD = Hebrew YHWH = proper name of God
- c. God = El = God singular

Elohim = God plural

The LORD our Elohim

AHAD = one unified or beginning

Shows diversity and unity of God

#### d. Scriptures where the Holy Spirit acts as God head

- i. Genesis 1: 1-2 ...And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
- ii. Genesis 1:26 Let us make man in our image
- iii. Genesis 3:22 Behold, the man is become as one of us
- iv. Genesis 11:7 ...let us go down

Unity within the Trinity: unity within decision making

- v. New Testament instances where Holy Spirit identified as

separate but equal

1. Baptism of Jesus Christ Matthew 3:16 Spirit of God descended like a dove. Voice from heaven: God. Jesus= Son of God. Holy Spirit: form of a dove. All 3 separate and sovereign.
  2. Great Commission. Matthew 28: 19 baptizing in the name of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
  3. Before church in Jerusalem Ananias lies to the Holy Spirit = lies to God. Acts 5:3-4
  4. 1 Peter 1: 1-2
  5. Paul salutation to Corinthians 2 Cor 13:14  
Co-authority
  6. New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed, The Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed.
    - a. Quotations by the Spirit in the Old Testament which new Testament reveals that the Holy Spirit was the individual that was speaking.
      - i. Isaiah 6:8 ...the voice of the Lord saying whom shall I send?...here I am send me...  
Acts 28:25 The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah...
      - ii. Jeremiah 31:33 saith the Lord  
Hebrews 10:15-18 The Holy Spirit...had said before...  
The Lord speaking through Jeremiah is the Holy Spirit.
      - iii. Psalm 95:7-11 For he is our God  
Hebrews 3: 7 Wherefore as the Holy Spirit said
      - iv. Old Testament: The Lord said...NT writers under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit tell us which statements are said by the Holy Spirit.
    - b. Holy Spirit is an individual with the capacity to communicate as an individual.
2. Attributes of the Holy Spirit
    - a. A Person: Mind, Knowledge, Will, Expressions, Feelings, and Responsibility.
      - i. Mind: Romans 8:27 He who searches the heart knows what the mind of the Spirit is...makes intercession for

the saints according to the will of God. The Spirit knows the mind and will of the Father.

- ii. Knowledge: 1 Corinthians 2:10 For the Spirit searches all things...no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. The Spirit has understanding and knowledge. Jesus communed with the Father. The Holy Spirit is also a person. He has a mind, knowledge, and a will.
- iii. Will: 1 Corinthians 12: 7-11 For to one is given by the Spirit...dividing to every man severally as he will. He has a will. He performs his will and not our will.
- iv. Expressions: Romans 15:30 through the love of the Spirit. Capacity to love. 2 Corinthians 13:14 communion of the Holy Spirit. Can commune with him. Philippians 2:1 fellowship of the Spirit. Can express himself in fellowship. Acts 13:2 Holy Spirit says separate to me Barnabas and Saul to the work to which I have called them.
- v. Feelings: Jesus had feelings. Times when he was angry e.g. money changers in the temple. My father's house is a place of worship. Holy Spirit also has feelings. Matthew 12:31 Every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men but blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven men. 1 Thessalonians 5:19 Do not quench the Spirit. Spirit is there to bring us what is true. We should discern within the body of Christ. Spirit invites us to test. Ephesians 4:30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit. Hebrews 10:29 insulted the Spirit of grace. In redemption, Christ suffered, but Holy Spirit reveals it to you. When you reject Christ, you insult the Holy Spirit.
- vi. Responsibility: John 15:10,26 Jesus said if you love me keep my commandments. Dwells with you and in you. Acts 1:8 receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. Holy Spirit dwells with everyone. God is in their midst. He is omnipresent and omnipotent. John 15... and he will be in you.
  1. Action and Authority: John 15:26 when the Comforter comes, he will testify of me. Primary responsibility and function of the Holy Spirit is to testify of Jesus Christ. One way to discern if Holy Spirit is manifesting is to see whether the manifestation is leading you to Christ.

- II. Work of the Holy Spirit: divided into 2 parts
  - a. Work of the Holy Spirit in the World
    - i. Spirit draws people to God: John 6:44 Jesus said no man comes to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. The Father draws people to him via the Holy Spirit.
    - ii. The Spirit is with us = he is in the world and if you are a believer the Spirit is in us.
      - 1. Many people in the Bible responded to God w/o hearing the gospel.
        - i. Abraham called by God, Job was a Gentile.
        - ii. Bible says if you seek me with your whole heart, you will find me. God is able to reach those who have never heard of him (E.g. Ethiopian eunuch Acts 8, God sent Philip to meet with him).
      - 2. Why did Jesus have to die?
        - a. John 3:16 so that I might live...John 16:7 "It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I not go away, the Comforter will not come to you but if I depart, I will send him unto you."
        - b. The Comforter will: (John chapter 16)
          - i. Verses 8-9: convict the world of sin that is = God's understanding of sin. What is the ultimate sin? Verse 9: because they believe not in me. God did not call us to uncleanness but unto holiness...1 Thessalonians 4:7-8. We have a responsibility to respond to the call of the Holy Spirit.
            - 1. Matthew 12:31 Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. Blaspheme the Holy Spirit = to be in a state of continuous rejection of the revelation of Jesus by the Holy Spirit. The primary purpose of the Holy Spirit is to bring people to Jesus.
          - ii. Verse 10: Convict the world of righteousness = God's understanding or what is right. Jesus is our standard of righteousness. Romans 3:22 the righteousness of God is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe.
          - iii. Verse 11: Convict the world of judgment. We should not judge but there will be someone who judges. God will judge beginning with the prince of the world. Jude 1: 14-15 Lord will come with his saints to judge ungodliness. Heb 4:12: The gospel = two edged sword which separates the soul and the Spirit. Holy Spirit uses content and not style to convict.

b. Work of the Holy Spirit in the Church

i. Reconciliation: Acts 2

1. Acts 2:37 they were pricked in their heart, "What shall we do?"

a. With salvation comes 2 promises: forgiveness of sin and gift of the Holy Spirit.

b. Verse 13: Holy Spirit works in the believer to

1. Guide you to what is true
2. Tell you things to come.
3. Glorify Jesus, not self or others.

c. Verse 14: The Father gives all things to the Son. The Son declares those things to the Spirit and the Spirit distributes it to the Body of Christ = the believers.

i. The Spirit is

1. The source of our regeneration. Titus 3: 4-5
2. Sanctifier: set something aside for the service of God. Romans chapter 15. 2 Thessalonians 2:13 sanctification by Holy Spirit.
3. Guarantee of our inheritance Ephesians 1: 13. Our seal of ownership. Christians are purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ, sealed by the Holy Spirit. 2 Corinthians chapter 1.
4. Guarantee in our hearts of our adoption. Galatians 4:6 Abba, Father. The Spirit produces in us a heart that knows this guarantee/confidence in him. Romans 8:14...sons of God.
5. Occupier: John chapter 15: If you love me keep my commandments,...pray the Father for a helper...Holy Spirit dwells with you and will be in you. In the World, he's with us. In Christ, the Holy Spirit is in us... 2 Timothy 1:14. Corinthians 6:19. Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. You are God's property.
6. Teacher: John 15:26 The spirit of truth from the father will testify of me. 1 Corinthians 2: 13 comparing spiritual things with spiritual. The Spirit reveals things to us. Holy Spirit teaches that which glorifies Jesus Christ.

ii. Baptism of the Holy Spirit

1. Spirit baptism is the indwelling power of the Spirit

a. Prophecy of John the Baptist in Matthew 3:11 that the one who comes will baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.

i. Jesus is the one who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. And the Spirit will do what Jesus wills.

- b. Promise of Jesus in Acts 1:4-5 that ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.
  - i. John had told them that the one who stood before them would baptize them with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- c. Purpose of Spirit Baptism
  - i. More effective witnesses for Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, end of the Earth.
  - ii. To take that which is Christ and give it to the church.
  - iii. Empower us to be a mouthpiece for the Holy Spirit to achieve his goal of testifying of Jesus Christ. John 15:26.
- d. Practice of Spirit Baptism
  - i. Acts chapter 2: 1-4 Evidence of Spirit Baptism
    - 1. Mighty rushing wind
    - 2. Divided tongues as of fire on top of their heads (in OT with Israelites single fire by night, cloud by day)
    - 3. Spoke in other tongues: language, not babbling; understood in their own language, worshipping the Lord
    - 4. Peter testified of Jesus (previously denied walking with Jesus).
  - ii. Acts 8:14-20 Baptism of Samaritans
    - 1. Can't be purchased with \$...Peter says your money perishes with you
    - 2. Simon (ex-sorcerer) who wishes to buy spiritual manifestation
    - 3. Not planned
  - iii. Acts 10:44 Gentile Baptism (Peter at the house of Cornelius)
    - 1. Speaking of tongues = worshipping God (tongues=praise)
    - 2. Water baptism occurred after Spirit baptism
  - iv. Acts 19:1-7 Baptism of disciples
    - 1. Asked have you received the Holy Spirit, but they had not heard of the Holy Spirit.
    - 2. Baptized in the name of the Lord, Jesus
    - 3. Prophesied
  - v. Summary
    - 1. Work of Spirit in the world: bring people to Jesus
    - 2. Work of Spirit in the church: enable us to fulfill the great commission

- III. Gifts from the Holy Spirit
  - a. 1 Corinthians chapter 12

- i. Verse 1. I do not want you to be ignorant...Spiritual gifts should not lead to division but should be empowering and enable the church to go to the uttermost part of the world and preach the gospel.
- ii. Verse 4. Diversities of gifts, but same Spirit; differences of administration but the same Lord; diversities of operation but the same God works in all of us.
  - 1. Different manifestation (gift), different administration, different operations (activities). Therefore, impossible to know the total # of gifts.
- iii. The gifts of the Spirit are for the profit of the whole body of Christ.
- iv. Greek word "charisma" = gifts
- v. Verses 8-11: Read. The Holy Spirit is the one who decides who and how:
 

Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Gifts of Healing, Working of miracles, Prophecy, Discerning of Spirits, Different Kinds of Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues
- vi. 9 Gifts in 1 Corinthians 12
  - 1. Wisdom: Logosofia = wisdom from God. Wisdom is experience-based knowledge. God gives word of wisdom in an area where experience is lacking.
  - 2. Word of knowledge: complete understanding. Ex. Acts chapter 8 Peter hears an outpouring of Holy Spirit and tells Simon about his inward thoughts.
  - 3. Faith: not a responsive faith but putting your trust in God. Hebrews 11 Faith that is a gift from God. Faith that we live our lives and produces work: Abraham , Noah building an ark long before he saw any rain.
  - 4. Healings: sudden healing, Act 3: 1-10 Lame man at the Gate Beautiful for 40 years. Jesus would have walked by this man. Peter looked at him and saw that he had faith to be healed.
    - a. As God wills, James 5:14 we should ask for healing...anyone sick among you, call elders,...but God responded my grace is sufficient for you.
    - b. Isaiah 53:4-5 by your stripes, I am healed. OT interpreted in light of the NT. 1 Peter 2: 21 to this you were called because Christ suffered for us, committed no sin, by his stripes you were healed. Healed of the terminal illness of sin.
  - 5. Working of miracles: dudamas= power, strength, working of spiritual power. 1 Cor 2:2-5 doing work in the power of God. Glory is for God not the instrument. God used donkeys and whales to accomplish his purpose.
    - a. Miracles cannot be scheduled. Jesus did not schedule miracles. Happened when it was time to happen according to his purpose.
  - 6. Prophecy: primarily prediction of the future but also to say what the Lord says. 1 Cor 14:1-6 prophecy edifies the Church, speaking in tongues edifies the man unless someone interprets. Always judge what someone prophesies. Truth is to be tested.
  - 7. Discerning of Spirits: critical analysis, judicial estimation, to pass judgement. Judge the fruit that is on the tree. 1 John 4:1 Test the spirit.

Acts 16: 16 Paul in Philippi commanded the spirit to come out of a fortune teller.

8. Different Tongues or language: Not random babbling but a language, tongues translated as praise, Acts chapter 2, 1 Cor chapter 14: proper use of tongues.
  9. Interpretation of Tongues = translation of tongues Acts 2:17 Peter quoting from Joel 2. Pour out my Spirit on all flesh...Acts 2:38 gift of the Spirit needed today. Tongues never a message from God, always praise to God.
- vii. Holy Spirit gives gifts in the moment for a purpose, to accomplish a work. 1 Cor 12:11 as the Spirit wills.

b. Romans 12: 3 adds 6 more

Prophesy, Ministry, Teaching, Exhorts, Gives, Leads, Mercy

1. Ministry: be of service one to another.
  2. Exhortation: seldom appreciated but needed.
  3. Give liberally.
  4. Lead with diligence.
  5. Mercy with cheerfulness. Mercy is not giving someone what they deserve. God's mercy endureth forever.
  6. Prophesy
- c. Celibacy: 1 Corinthians 7 :7-9 I wish that all men could be as I
- d. Ephesians 4:10
1. Apostle: saw Christ, eyewitness, definition = one who was sent out.
  2. Prophets: deliver God's word and tell the future
  3. Evangelists: proclaim the message of reconciliation to the world (the gospel). We all have the ministry of reconciliation but evangelist proclaim it.
  4. Pastors/Overseers: Tending the flock, shepherds; The one who is serving for the needs within the local church.
  5. Teachers: explain the word.

IV. Fruit of the Holy Spirit

- a. John 15: 12-17 , Jesus said that we should love one another as he has loved us...go and bare fruit.
- b. Verse 26: when the helper comes, he will testify of me
- c. The fruit of the Holy Spirit should coincide with the function of the Holy Spirit = exalt/glorify Jesus.
- d. Galatians 5:19
  - Works of the flesh: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings and such like...will not inherit the kingdom of God.



- Fruit of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance...those in Christ have crucified the flesh.
  1. Effect of God in someone's life
    - a. Carpos = visible expression of a hidden inward source; not a fruit on a tree, inner source.
    - b. Greek language is precise: E.g. love of loved one vs love for things. Fruit as byproduct of something deeper within us. Character of the fruit is a revelation of the root. This should be the byproduct of the presence/power of the Holy Spirit in your life.
    - c. Luke 6:45 Jesus said a good man out of good treasure of his heart brings forth good...out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. Need to protect our heart because it will produce the fruit of the Spirit or the works of the flesh.
    - d. Mark 7:14 Jesus said there is nothing that enters a man from the outside that can defile him but the things that come out of him defiles him.
  2. "Fruit" of the Spirit based on context of the passage and shows unity of Holy Spirit.
    - a. Not 9 fruits but 9 expressions of a single fruit of the Spirit. All 9 should be present in a believer through the power of the Spirit.
    - b. Galatians church started off in the Spirit but tried to be perfect in the flesh with religious rituals. The expressions of the Holy Spirit go against our nature.
      - i. Love = Agape, devotion, God's love towards us, God has to do it in and through our lives. 1 Cor. 13 describes love. Verses 4-8 sacrificial outpouring and not produced naturally.
        1. Matthew 22:37 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. First commandment.
        2. Second: Love your neighbor as yourself. On these 2 commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
        3. When we are loving God as we should and allowing God's love to work in our lives then every other relationship will be in proper balance in terms of our response to them.
    - c. Joy is not a feeling. It comes as a fruit by the Holy Spirit. Romans 14: 17 The kingdom of God is not meat and drink but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Joy is a depth of understanding in the midst of difficulty. Romans 15: 13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit to have joy and peace in your life. Joy =

calm delight even in the midst of the storm. 1 Thess 1:6 church received word of the Lord with much affliction but also with joy from the Holy Spirit. 2 Cor 8:2 churches of Macedonia great trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy.

- d. Peace = eirini. Lack of hostility and state of harmony. Phillipians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing...and the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ. Paul writing from a Roman prison. Don't worry, just make your request known to God. Isaiah 26:3 Isaiah goes to Hezekiah when surrounded by Syrian army, thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.
- e. Longsuffering = Means to endure so that I do not give an offense. Brings glory to Jesus. 2 Corinthians 6: 3-10 conflicting emotions but a believer indwelt by the Holy Spirit, will not be an offense to the gospel. In all things God can get the glory.
- f. Gentleness/Kindness/Goodness: Doing that which is right. Colossians 3:12-13 put on kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering. Christ was gentle and kind to us. Died for us. Sent Holy Spirit to draw us to him. Goodness = Romans 15:14 being filled with the word of God. Fill vessel with good things. We are clay pots which does not change, what changes is what's in the pot. In the word and sanctification of the Holy Spirit.
- g. Faith/Faithful = trust in that which is unseen but known to be trustworthy. Paul: 1<sup>st</sup> attribute/criteria for any leader within the church. 2 Timothy 2:2. Based on availability not capability.
- h. Gentleness/Meekness/Humility: supple, also attribute of leadership. 2 Timothy 2:24 servant of the Lord must not strive but be gentle unto all men, to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; Not overbearing.
- i. Self-control/Temperance: virtue that comes from self-control. Spirit is working as a fruit. Natural byproduct of the knowledge of the word of God. Spirit of God works through the word of God to produce in us the will of God. 2 Peter 1:5-7. Self-control to stay away from things that are not of God.
- j. Summary: Love, Joy, Peace = in our hearts  
Longsuffering ,Kindness, Goodness = shown by our actions  
Faith, Gentleness, Self-control = signs of maturity in the Lord.  
Eph 5:9 goodness, righteousness, and truth  
John 15:1-8, I am the true vine. If you abide in me and my words abide in you. Get connected to the vine. Seek guidance from the Spirit. Spirit will give you the things of Jesus. You will produce the fruits of righteousness. Eph 5: 8-10 Finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. Need to take direction from the Spirit of the Lord. Verses 11-17 understand what the will of the Lord is. Fruit of the Spirit will be plentiful in someone who understands

the power and purpose of the Spirit in the life of the believer =  
produce within us that which brings glory to Jesus Christ.