

A Quick Reference on the Holy Spirit

A Beginner's Guide

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This guide is for YOU.

Are you fresh out of jail or prison? Are you finding yourself on a path that's leading to one or possibly the other? Are you anxious with the choices you have made and fearful of where your life is headed? It's not by accident that you have in your possession this simple guide. It's time for change, true change. Jesus says, "Come, follow Me." It's now up to you to make a choice.

Introduction and Instructions:

This guide provides simple concepts of the Holy Spirit, which are intended to introduce the Holy Spirit and who He is to you. Each of these simple concepts are geared toward shedding light on the reality of why we need the Holy Spirit in our life and what He does for us.

Consider what you read carefully and be willing to discuss this topic or any questions that you have with your teacher or staff member. You will have two questions per section to answer on each topic, one at the end of each section and one at the end of this guide. When you are considering each question be thoughtful about what's being asked and try to answer each question honestly. This will be the most effective way to help you grow, and your teacher to understand and learn more about you.

Please take your time with this guide! Pacing yourself adequately will only help you build a solid foundation. Also, pray and ask the Lord to give you understanding about the Holy Spirit, so you can truly learn **HIM**. You are on your way to a great relationship with God!

Enjoy!

Section 1 - Why do we need the Holy Spirit?

Without the Holy Spirit we remain broken people fixed on living for ourselves. Living our own way is destructive; therefore we need substance that provides a productive life. There is nothing that anyone can produce in themselves they can remedy on their own. This is something you will have to discover on your own. The Holy Spirit is able to bring hope and help!

If we continue to do things our own way, we remain alone in our hearts and minds from the Lord. We have turned to our own pleasures; doing evil and living corrupt lives. As a result, we have hurt many people and caused a lot of personal damage. The truth is we have given ourselves over to an “**unholy spirit**”.....**OUR SELF!** We lust after things on the earth that are not truly good for us.

The great hope for our broken lives is the Holy Spirit who speaks to us. He convicts (*reveals His path by convincing us in our hearts and minds, there is a better way*) us of our failures and leads us into truth. The Holy Spirit seeks to show us there is a way out of the dark and into the light. There is nothing more that the Holy Spirit wants than to live in us and lead us into righteousness (*living, thinking and believing that God and His ways are worthy to live for*) in every good and beneficial way. **Nothing can compare to the Holy Spirit and there is no substitute for Him.**

Have you been living the “I got to have it now” kind of life? Have you burned bridges, caused a lot of hurt in relationships and have you caused yourself emotional and mentally turmoil? Do you feel empty, worthless, fearful, depressed and hopeless? We must choose repentance! This means to turn away from evil and move toward the heart and mind of the Lord Jesus and His ways. He is destined to live in us! He is also destined to lead us into a holy and effective life. Without the fulfillment of the Holy Spirit living in us and leading us, we will be misled and miserable. True misery is lacking the One that created us. He has called us into a life that has meaning and purpose in true relationship with Him. He will lead us to Christ, who shows us the Father.

1 Corinthians 6:19

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, who you have from God, and you are not your own?”

1 Corinthians 12:3

“Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.”

QUESTION

What questions do you have for your teacher concerning your need for the Holy Spirit or is the Holy Spirit already doing something in your life? If so, what is He doing?

Section 2 - Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is a Person and He is God. He is not anything but God. It's important to understand the Holy Spirit is not defined by our own intellect. If we attempt to make sense of who He is by our rational and distorted thinking, we will misunderstand Him and view Him incorrectly. We may just view Him as a powerful force that just does good stuff for us. He is so much more than an unseen power that makes our lives better. You need hope in your life and the Holy Spirit will give you hope. This hope will only be given based on who He is. Let's first start by recognizing He is Holy.

What does Holy actually mean? There's an infinite amount to be said on what holiness means, but here's a basic idea: Worthy of complete devotion, exalted as one perfect in goodness and righteousness. The Lord is constant and intensely devoted to be affectionate, tender and soft-hearted, gentle in how He addresses us in our weaknesses, kind in how He treats us and yet firm in perfect correction. He is compassionate, forgiving, merciful and meek. However, He is not agreeable with our un-holy treachery and is passionate to expose deception we believe and practice. He shows Himself to be different from who we are, therefore revealing His light, which exposes our darkness. We either hate light and love darkness or allow the light to reveal our horrible condition and accept His love and His willingness to cleanse us through our repentance.

The Holy Spirit is not a mysterious invisible force that we should be fearful of or is He to be mistreated by our speculations of who He actually is in relationship to God the Father and God the Son, and to us. It is clear who the Holy Spirit is. He is God! There are not 3 gods, but there are 3 persons, one God. The Holy Spirit is one of the persons of God, who comes and lives in our spirit, saving our soul through the life of Christ graciously given by the Father.

He is our Teacher who guides us into all truth, our Comforter and our Helper. He has thoughts, feelings and a will. We also have thoughts, feelings and a will, except our whole being is in desperate need for true life and deliverance from our corruption. Jesus says the Holy Spirit does not speak on His own authority, but whatever the Holy Spirit hears from the Father, He speaks; this very truth reveals the heart of God for our lives, submission. Without submission we prideful go about living life by continually corrupting our whole being. We need the word of God spoken clearly into our being that tells us who we really are and who He really is!

The Holy Spirit only speaks the truth that leads us into a deep relationship with the Lord. Through the Spirit of God we will continue to learn about His character and ways. We can become whole in Him and make a difference in the lives of others.

Isaiah 57:15

“For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.”

Romans 15:13

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

QUESTION

Why is it important to know the Holy Spirit personally, not **merely** intellectually?

Section 3- What does the Holy Spirit do for you?

He dwells with the broken and contrite spirit to revive us. He provides distaste for sin (*living, thinking and believing our way is better than God's*), He provides hunger for righteousness, and He proves that Satan and all his ways are defeated. He shows us things to come and reveals who Jesus is to us. He searches our hearts and knows our minds, and He leads us into the deep things of God. He is our Comforter and our Helper in times of need, when we are hurting and when we need strength. He heals our broken and wounded hearts that have been crushed by the weight of sin in the world and through people. He takes our shattered lives and makes us whole and new through Jesus Christ for the glory of God the Father.

He leads us into righteousness and takes us step by step into the plan of God to fulfill His purposes. He takes us places we cannot go on our own and gives us wisdom and understanding to make effective and life-altering choices we cannot by ourselves. He is all-powerful over sin and demonic temptations. He gives us the ability to discern where not to go and the people we should stay away from. He brings to our remembrance the words of truth for any particular need for us and for others. The Holy Spirit is a gift! He fills us with Himself and His power to accomplish His kingdom work with spiritual gifts, if we seek Him.

He will place godly people in our lives that are filled by Him to encourage, sharpen, build up and instruct us to grow in Christ and His service. He will show us the kingdom work we should focus upon and set us apart for that work by equipping and empowering us. The Holy Spirit pours out the love of God into our hearts. There is power, joy and peace by living and walking in the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit sets us apart from living life caught up in the things of this world, causing us to be holy as He is holy. If you do not harden your heart, but hear His voice, He will lead you into His **REST**.

Luke 11:13

“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Titus 3:5

“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.”

QUESTION

What do you **desire** for the Holy Spirit to do in your life and what does the Holy Spirit **desire** to do in your life?

END SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Section 1

What do you believe the Holy Spirit can change in your life? Or are you still unsure at this point of your life? If you are not sure please explain why and/or see your teacher.

Section 2

What have you learned new about the Holy Spirit and what He means to you or do you still not understand who He is?

Section 3

What hinders you from fully walking in the Holy Spirit?