

TWO



ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



THE DOORWAY

Ruach: (Roo-akh): Hebrew word meaning breath or spirit, wind, can be construed as “force”. It is invisible like the wind, because it can be felt or experienced, but not seen. The New Testament equivalent is the Greek, “pneuma”, an ancient Greek word for breath and in religious contexts, for “spirit” or “soul”.



In the Bible, names carry particular significance. They are sources of revelation and a glimpse into the mystery of the bearer’s identity. Names and titles for God express something of the character, presence, authority, and nature of His divine being. The Hebrew word behind spirit is Ruach — it means “air in motion”. It is the same word for breath. It also means life. By resemblance to breath and air in motion, it means “spirit”. If we rely on our English word “spirit”, we’re not getting the full attributes of what the Bible is trying to describe.

It’s from the breath of God that we actually get our life (Gen 2:6-7) “...and the Lord God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life”.

Just as God breathed on Adam and gave him the breath of life (imagine how close God would’ve been to Adam, to breathe into him), Jesus breathed on His disciples (John 20) and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit”.

The Holy Spirit is as close to you as your very breath. “In Him, we live, we move, and have our being.” We can literally breathe in the Presence of God and be filled with the Holy Spirit with our breath. (Our very breath, as we breath Him in, can be filled with Him).

The Holy Spirit guides believers into all truth from what He hears from the Father and Son. The Spirit (The Helper)

honors the Father and Son by helping the community of believers. The Holy Spirit’s attitude and ministry are marked by generosity; His chief function is to illumine Jesus’ teaching, to glorify His person, and to work in the life of the individual and church.

The Holy Spirit is the power by which believers come to Christ and see with new eyes of faith. He is closer to us than we are to ourselves. Like the eyes of the body through which we see physical things, He is seldom in focus to be seen directly because HE is the one THROUGH whom all else is seen in a new light. It is from the eye of the Holy Spirit that the Father-Son relationship is viewed.

It should not surprise us that the images for and names of God can be more mysterious than comprehensible. They invite us into contemplation of the Holy One. *They compel us toward worship rather than explanations.*

Behold. Look. Mediate. Open wide to the God who is beyond and above, yet at the same moment — God in and with us.

Compiled by Amy Childerson

The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person

We can have an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit :

has a mind. (Romans 8:27)

has a will. (1 Cor. 12:11)

has emotions. (Romans 15:30, Gal. 5:22, Eph. 4:30)

will comfort. (Acts. 9:31)

will speak.. (Heb. 3:7)

will teach. (1 Cor. 2:13)

can be insulted. (Heb. 10:29)

can be resisted (Acts 7:51)

can be lied to. (Acts 5:1-11)

can be our friend. (John 14:16, 2 Cor. 13:14)

There is a dynamic partnership between Word and Spirit.

“The Bible is our map and the Spirit is our guide.”
John Bevere

The Holy Spirit brings us revelation from the word.

We embrace the dynamic partnership of the Word and the Spirit because personal transformation and powerful ministry results when we hold these two together.

There is a danger of dividing Word and Spirit.
*if our focus is on the Word alone, we may miss personal encounter

*if our focus is on the Holy Spirit alone, we may not be in line with the Word. The Holy Spirit NEVER contradicts scripture.

We can experience the Spirit as both an Indwelling (Spirit Within) & Empowering (Spirit Upon) presence in our lives.

Spirit Within (Indwelling Presence)

Comes at Salvation/Sonship (Romans 8:15)

Associated with fruits and character

Often for us—in growing wisdom and faith

“God, what fruit of the Spirit do you want to work on in me?”

Spirit Upon (Empowering Presence)

Comes at any point He wants for what He wants

Supernatural works

Associated with Gifts of the Spirit

Often for ministry to others

“May the gifts you have placed on my life never supersede the fruit you have developed in me”

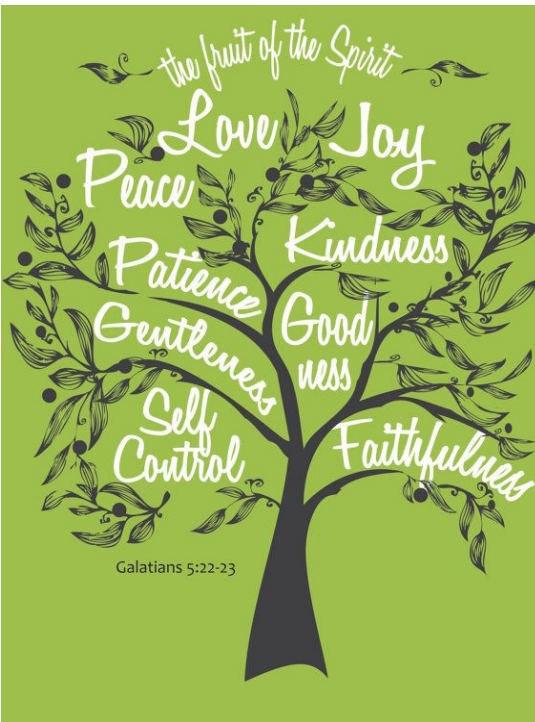
How do we experience the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit?

Often but NOT always:

- **Ask** for the Spirit's empowerment in your life. (Luke 11:13)
- Someone who operates in the gifts of the Spirit **lays hands** on and prays for a release of the gifts in others. (impartation prayer—Acts 9:17)
- **Repentance** can play a strong role in this dynamic reality for empowerment (sin can quench the Spirit's work).

There is a lovely mystery to the Spirit's workings in us. We are encouraged to continue to “fan the flame” - cultivate the fruit and yield to the Spirit's empowering presence.

FRUITS



What is one Fruit of the Spirit that you are needing right now in your life? Ask God for that now:

GIFTS

Look up these passages and list the Gifts of the Spirit.

Romans 12:6-8	1 Cor. 12:8-10	1 Cor. 12:28	Ephesians 4:11

Other gifts:

MINISTRY

“Breath Prayer” is saying a word (usually inaudibly) as you inhale and saying a word as you exhale.



We may ask for God’s power again and again. A simple prayer:

Lord, there’s no way I can do this in my own strength. Help! Please empower me. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit.

From Receiving the Power pg. 119

1. Close your eyes and recall the line “Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10). Be open to the presence of God.
2. Imagine that God is calling you by name and asking, “(Your name) what do you want? Like the blind man on the road to Jericho, Jesus kindly looks you in the eyes and asks, “What do you want from me?”
3. Give God a simple and direct answer that comes from your heart. Write down the answer. If you have more than one answer, write them down. Your answer may be one word such as peace or love or help. It may be several words or a phrase such as “feel your presence” or “lead me into life.” Whatever your answers, they are the foundation of your breath prayer.
4. Select the name that you are most comfortable using to speak with God. Combine it with your written answer to the question God asked you. This is your prayer.
5. Breathe in the first phrase/word (generally your invocation of God’s name) and breathe out the second phrase/word (request or need).

Inhale God’s name

Ruach
 Lord Jesus Christ
 Jesus
 Mighty God
 Great Physician
 Speak Lord
 Lord, My Guide
 My Father
 You are Good
 Lord, Our King
 Our Redeemer
 Lord

Exhale Need

You are enough
 Have mercy
 Let me feel your love
 Show me your way
 Heal me
 I’m listening
 Here I am
 I will trust in you
 Your will alone
 Bring your kingdom
 Come, Lord Jesus
 Help

RESOURCES

- Receiving the Power—Long and McMurry
- The Word and Power Church—Banister
- God’s Empowering Presence—Fee
- The Baptism and Gifts of the Spirit - Lloyd-Jones
- Life in the Spirit—McQuilkin
- Chaos and Grace—Galli

WORTH THE SEARCH

John Bevere | Relationship with the Holy Spirit
<https://youtu.be/1wmuOIMta-o>

John Bevere | An Intro to the Holy Spirit
<https://youtu.be/5hV1JE-nfx0>

Look for more from John Bevere , Chris Gore and Shawn Bolz

Third Church Statement of Faith— The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ baptizes believers in the Holy Spirit whom also we are sealed for the day of redemption. The Holy Spirit regenerates, forever indwells and graciously equips the Christian for Godly living and service. Following conversion, the Spirit desires to continuously fill, empower and anoint believers for ministry and witness. We also believe that signs and wonders, as well as the gifts of the Spirit described in the New Testament, are operative today and are designed to testify to the presence of the kingdom and to empower and edify the church to fulfill its calling and mission. (Mt. 3:11; Jn 1:12-13, 3:1-15; Acts 4:29-30; Rom 9:9, 12:3-8; 1 Cor 12:12-13; 2 Cor 1:21-22; Gal 3:1-5; Eph 1:13-14, 5:18)