

SESSION TWO

Role of the Holy Spirit

PRAYING WITH OTHERS | LEVEL ONE



Role of the Holy Spirit

THE DOORWAY



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.

Ruach (Roo-akh): Hebrew word meaning breath or spirit, wind, can be construed as "force".

רוּחַ

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 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 Childerston



Foundational Beliefs About The Spirit

The Holy Spirit—a Divine Person

We can have an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit has a mind. —*Romans 8:27*
- The Holy Spirit has a will. —*1 Corinthians. 12:11*
- The Holy Spirit has emotions. —*Romans 15:30, Galatians 5:22, Ephesians 4:30*
- The Holy Spirit will comfort. —*Acts. 9:31*
- The Holy Spirit will speak. —*Hebrews 3:7*
- The Holy Spirit will teach. —*1 Corinthians 2:13*
- The Holy Spirit can be insulted. —*Hebrews 10:29*
- The Holy Spirit can be resisted —*Acts 7:51*
- The Holy Spirit can be lied to. —*Acts 5:1-11*
- The Holy Spirit can be our friend. —*John 14:16, 2 Corinthians 13:14*

The Spirit's Presence in Our Lives

Spirit Within INDWELLING PRESENCE	Spirit Upon EMPOWERING PRESENCE
Comes at Salvation/Sonship— <i>Romans 8:15</i>	Comes at any point He wants for what He wants
Associated with fruits and character	Supernatural works
Often for us—in growing wisdom and faith	Associated with Gifts of the Spirit
<i>"God, what fruit of the Spirit do you want to work on in me?"</i>	<i>"May the gifts you have placed on my life never supersede the fruit you have developed in me"</i>

The 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.



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.

Experiencing 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).

Fruits of the Spirit

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

—Galatians 5:22-23



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

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Gifts of the Spirit

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

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

Other gifts:

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MINISTRY

Praying a Breath Prayer

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

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	Exhale NEED
Ruach	<i>You are enough</i>
Lord Jesus Christ	<i>Have mercy</i>
Jesus	<i>Let me feel your love</i>
Mighty God	<i>Show me your way</i>
Great Physician	<i>Heal me</i>
Speak Lord	<i>I'm listening</i>
Lord, My Guide	<i>Here I am</i>
My Father	<i>I will trust in you</i>
You are Good	<i>Your will alone</i>
Lord, Our King	<i>Bring your kingdom</i>
Our Redeemer	<i>Come, Lord Jesus</i>
Lord	<i>Help</i>

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.

—*Matthew 3:11; John 1:12-13, 3:1-15; Acts 4:29-30; Romans 9:9, 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Galatians 3:1-5; Ephesians 1:13-14, 5:18*

RESOURCES

Books

***Receiving the Power:
Preparing the Way for The Holy Spirit***
by Zeb Bradford Long & Douglas McMurry

The Word and Power Church
by Douglas Banister

***God's Empowering Presence:
The Holy Spirit in the Letters of Paul***
by Gordon D. Fee

The Baptism and Gifts of the Spirit
by David Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Life in the Spirit
by Robertson McQuilkin, J. Robertson
McQuilkin, Philip Yancey

***Chaos and Grace: Discovering
the Liberating Work of the Holy Spirit***
by Mark Galli

Videos

Relationship with the Holy Spirit
by John Bevere [YouTube]

An Intro to the Holy Spirit
by John Bevere [YouTube]

Search for additional videos on YouTube by
John Bevere, Chris Gore and Shawn Bolz.



Notes

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