



Week 22: Understanding the New Testament: The Spirit of God

MV: *"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26)*

ASK: Do you feel like you need the Holy Spirit?

Every aspect of our salvation is dependent on the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit:

- We can't know God;
- We can't understand scripture;
- We can't overcome sin;
- We can't transform the people around us;
- We can't be saved!!!
- We can't faithfully follow God

Not having the Holy Spirit goes all the way back to Adam and Eve

*"I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a **new heart** and put a **new spirit** in you; I will remove from you your **heart of stone** and give you a **heart of flesh**. 27 And **I will put my Spirit in you** and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws." (Ezek 36:25-27)*

How could God's Spirit dwell in fragile man? The Hebrews were scared of Him at Mt. Sinai and it was a Pillar of Cloud/Fire

ASK: Who is the Holy Spirit?

- He is God;
- Fully unique and fully divine
- He is a person; part of the mystery of the Trinity

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." (Eph 4:30)

John the Baptist and Jesus were both filled with the Spirit

Jesus gave the disciples an impossible task and then ascended to Heaven.

Then the Holy Spirit shows up on the scene and the "Mission Impossible" begins to happen

The Holy Spirit is also responsible for writing the Bible; He would remind the disciples of Jesus' teachings

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26)

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness," (2 Tim 3:16)

"For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)

Every detail of scripture right down to grammatical features is inspired by The Spirit and is authoritative

"So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the wilderness," (Heb 3:7-8)

"But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you." (John 16:7)

Jesus sent "The Helper" so we could complete the mission.

"You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ." (Rom 8:9)

The Spirit gives us the power to faithfully follow Christ. Also we are to:

- Walk by the Spirit (Gal 5:16)
- Be filled with the Spirit (Eph 5:18)
- Pray in the Spirit (Jude 20)
- Put to death sin by the Spirit (Romans 8:13)

Assurance of salvation comes by the Spirit

"The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." (Rom 8:16)

Life lived with the Spirit and without the Spirit is contrasted in Romans 7 & 8

Matt 28:18-20 is only possible if God's people rely on the Spirit

The Spirit is not seeking its own so we shouldn't seek the Spirit for the Spirit's sake

"He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you." (John 16:14)

The Spirit can do unbelievable things in and through us

He gives us new desires as we begin to live with the goal of glorifying God in all we do

God designed us to function in community with other believers

The Spirit is at work not just through individuals but thru the Body as a whole too

There is nothing ordinary about God's people

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord." (Eph 2:19-21)

He dwells in us individually and collectively