

HOLY SPIRIT

SERIES: DOCTRINE | WEEK 6 | 10.3.2021

[Teaching today: Pastor Lee Wiggins]

Good morning. Oh, I'm so happy to see all of you today. Those of you up in the balcony, good morning. I told someone this week I just can't see your faces up there, so if you want to hide you're in a good spot, but I do look up once in a while, I can see people up there, so happy to see all of you. Those of you online, I can't see your faces either, miss you, but I'm so happy that you're online. I'm glad you're joining us. Well it's a great day. It's a great day.



We are in a series called DOCTRINE. We've been studying the doctrines of the Bible. Today we get to study the doctrine of the Holy Spirit of God, third person of The Trinity, and so we're going to dive into that here in just a moment. Next week Pastor John is going to take everything that we have studied up till now and try to make some sense of it; so, I understand that I've just confused us all so he's going to put it all together, make it into just a nice

simple package. No, seriously, you gotta come back next week, Pastor John will be sharing to just bring all this together, bring it back to our mind to learn it. We believe that when we understand theology, when we understand God, it just changes how we read our Bible, how we pray, how we think, how we act and behave towards others, so excited about that.

The week after that you have to be here, you'll see it on our ads as October 17, that's what we're branding today, it's a whole big day. A gentleman by the name of Brett Kunkle is coming here. He's going to preach a different message in both morning services, that is a huge order, so it is one of those days where you can come both hours and hear more information. And a lot of what is going to be talked about in those messages is the same things we've been talking about for the last bunch of weeks. On top of that, how to transfer that to the next generation and how to make this very operative in the next generation, so it's extremely important information. So I hope that you jump in on that.

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October 17 at Calvary
Guest speaker
Brett Kunkle - both
services, different
messages - equipping
the next generation

Imagine having been one of those guys, we call them disciples, that spent all that time with Jesus; everywhere He went, everything He did, day in, day out they were with Him. Anytime they had a question they could ask Him, and that was before the days of Siri, or who's that other girl? Oh, she's our singer on stage; she's way better, way better. Where is she? [HE POINTS AT HER IN THE AUDIENCE] There she is, she's awesome, we love her.

Can you imagine to be able to ask the God of the universe just the wildest, craziest questions that can come to your mind? *How's that work? Why does that work? Why does that person act like that?* - and to be able to walk through that. *What do you want me to do next, God?* And to get a straight answer immediately on the spot, and to be able to guide you through life and to be able to point you in every direction you want to go in. Wouldn't it be cool if we could have a day with Jesus doing that right now with us, let alone a lifetime? You always see those ads, those little things like, you know, do this raffle or whatever and you get to spend a day with your favorite person, superstar, whatever, and wow, wouldn't that be cool, have dinner with this person? Dinner with Jesus, spend a day with Jesus.

So when Jesus lets His disciples know that He's about ready to leave this earth and die the disciples are concerned. You get used to having Him by your side leading you every way, answering all of your questions, and Jesus tells them, *Listen, I don't want you to be concerned. When I die there's a room I*

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want you to go in, I want you to wait in that and I am going to send my Holy Spirit to come upon you to live in you, to help you, to teach you, to guide you, to convict you, to give you gifts, to give you really cool fruits like love and joy and peace and those kinds of things, and He's never gonna leave you. So you just go there, don't do anything because you can't do anything without Him, just wait there until the Holy Spirit comes on your life and then you will have God Himself with you all the time. Let that sink in for a moment because this promised Holy Spirit that He promises to His disciples—He promises to us. That the Holy Spirit, if we put our trust in Jesus, will come upon us and into our lives, change us, and be there for us every day.

When I talk about the doctrine, or the word *doctrine* means "teaching," the teaching of the Holy Spirit, this is an exciting and important topic, to have God with us all the time. Now imagine recognizing this, knowing this, living like this, how it would change everything about your world, how you view the world, and how you take next steps in your everyday life. What I want to share with you today I want you to take it all in because it matters deeply for how you live.

I'm going to share a lot of verses of Scripture with you today, there's no way you can turn to all of them. You're welcome to try to write them down, they're on the notes that are found on the website – cfdowntown.com/doctrine – and I think this is something like week five or six, something like that, it's the last one with notes on in there, and there you'll find the outline for this message as well as every Scripture I'm gonna say. Well, maybe almost every one of them. On that site you'll find our women's studies, you'll find our Thursday night Bible Study Hub, you'll find our podcast, you'll find transcripts of these messages, so jump on there, take advantage of those. But let me walk you through this right now. Let me start with just a word of prayer.

Lord God,



I want to just invite your Holy Spirit to fall fresh on us this morning in this room. And Lord, I pray that somehow through the weakness of my words and the strength of your words and the power of your Holy Spirit, that your power of your Holy Spirit would move in this room so strongly today that our lives would never be the same as we allow your Spirit to guide us in all ways in life. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

All right. I want to start with a key factor that we've been talking about for the last four weeks but I've gotta say it because it's important: The Holy Spirit is God. The Holy Spirit is the third member of The Trinity. By the way, third in our world is always a bad thing, three strikes you're out, a third person is that third wheel, that's never a real good thing—the Holy Spirit, this is not that. The Holy Spirit is 100% God, co-equal, co-eternal, with all the attributes of God.

In the New Testament there's a story about Ananias and Sapphira, the beginning of the church, and they decided, because everyone was so in and just wanting to get this Gospel message out, they decided to sell some property and give that money to the church, give that money back to God. I want you to hear what happened. I'm going to read it from Acts 5, verses 3-4.

³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit

— *key words there, "to lie to the Holy Spirit"* —

and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?

– ACTS 5:3 (ESV)

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So evidently they sold this land and then, after having told everyone they're going to give it to the church, they keep part of the proceeds. And he says this:

⁴ While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God."

– ACTS 5:4 (ESV)

Notice what this verse says – what filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit? You have not lied to man, you've lied to God. And in this story we learn real quickly that the Holy Spirit is God.

Matthew Chapter 3, verses 16 & 17, very familiar to many of you in the baptism of Jesus:

¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw

— *listen* —

the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

– MATTHEW 3:16-17 (ESV)

The Spirit of God – the Holy Spirit is God.

Matthew 28:19, this is another very well-known verse, a very important little piece of information to notice in this verse: [JESUS SPEAKING]

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them

— *listen to this* —

in the name

— *by the way, that word name is singular, and it says:*

of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

– MATTHEW 28:19 (ESV)

It doesn't say the *names* of, no, the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit – three persons, one God, eternally existing, maintaining all the attributes of God. In fact, the Holy Spirit was co-creator of the world, Genesis Chapter 1, verse 2, we read these words:

² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

– GENESIS 1:2 (ESV)

The word *hovering* comes from this idea of brooding, it's a picture of a bird watching and hovering over the nest. It's a picture of God, the Holy Spirit, at the moment of creation.

In one of the oldest books of the Bible, book of Job, Job 33:4, listen to these words:

⁴ The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

– JOB 33:4 (ESV)

Our very breath is given to us by God. Think about that for a moment. The breath that each of us have whether you are a believer, whether you haven't trusted in Jesus, yet the Creator of the world and the Holy Spirit according to Job has given you that very breath. You owe the breath you breathe today to the



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Holy Spirit, to God Himself. This is why this begins to set an entire view of how we look at life and the world around us. It's why even those who don't put their trust in Christ can never get away from God's presence in this world even though they try. So the Holy Spirit is God. I also want to make it clear the Holy Spirit is a person, and mentioned this a moment ago. There are those who would say the Holy Spirit is just a power or a force, sort of like electricity, it's just something that's there that somehow does something, but is not personal, and the Holy Spirit is actually a person. The Jehovah Witnesses would believe that the Holy Spirit is not a person and would not make Him God but would rather make Him one of numerous gods. The Holy Spirit is a person, not an impersonal force.

Listen to John Chapter 16 – by the way, I'll mention this to you, a couple times I'm going to mention John 16 today, I would recommend if you're wanting to just grab a couple passages, I'm going to mention it when I get to them, just to go back and meditate on and think about as a result of this message today. John 15 and 16 would be one little section of Scripture there's just a lot there when you grab all the context, and we're moving quick today and can't grab all the context, although I'll mention a little bit about this passage. Listen to John 16, verse 7:

⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth:

— *it's Jesus speaking* —

it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

– JOHN 16:7-11 (ESV)

In this verse He responds to Him as being a *Helper*, that's a personal being. We read the words Him, *He* will come, *He* will help you, *He* will convict you—this is more than an impersonal force in the universe, this is God, the Holy Spirit, the third person of The Trinity.

Ephesians 4:30 says this, and we'll mention this a few times today:

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

– EPHESIANS 4:30 (ESV)

When you read that word *grieve* – "**do not grieve the Holy Spirit**" – I want you to think through a couple things. The Holy Spirit has emotions, that the Holy Spirit can actually be grieved—you can't grieve a power source, an energy source, you can only grieve a person. The Holy Spirit can be grieved.

By the way, a big point in this is that when the Holy Spirit is living in you and the Holy Spirit is walking beside you, picture those days when Jesus was walking with His disciples and they were together all day long. If you saw Jesus standing next to you and certain situations came up, you'd probably be like, "Yeah, I think I know how to behave right now. I'm not going there." We need to remember that. When God has given us His Holy Spirit—His Holy Spirit, God Himself—is with us all the time and our actions, our behaviors, our thoughts, where we look can grieve the Holy Spirit of God. I don't want to grieve God.

Let's talk about the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The Spirit of God comes to us at the moment we put our trust in Jesus. You'll hear me talking about the Gospel all the time here, the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ—we've sinned, as a result of our sin we were separated from God, there was



nothing we could do to get ourselves to God, and so God fixes that by sending His own Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross, and there He would pay the price and take on Himself the punishment for our sins. He would give us His righteousness and we'd give Him our sin, and in that moment His blood makes us righteous. His sacrifice makes us righteous, and God looks down on us and sees us as righteous. When we are saved God sends His Holy Spirit to us to empower us to live the life that He wants us to live.

By the way, that Spirit of God is given to you at that moment of salvation is always with you, is always operative in your life, it's not one of those things that we turn on and off, it's not one of those things that we conjure up. I hear people talk about this all the time, "You know, when I went to *that* church I felt the Spirit of God." And I've often thought about, okay, what creates that feeling that someone would make that kind of thing? We live in a time where through emotions, through things we do on this stage, through lights, through sounds, oftentimes we get this idea *that* was the Spirit of God. *It moved me.* This isn't something we just summon or conjure up or create in this place.

The reality is what's fun about the body of Christ coming together is the Spirit of God lives in everyone in here that knows Jesus as their Savior; when we all gather together as the body of Christ all indwelt by the Spirit of God, it is because of *that* that this place becomes a place where we feel an extra presence of the Spirit. Because when I look into your eyes [HE POINTS ACROSS THE AUDIENCE] and your eyes and your eyes and your eyes what I see is the Spirit of God living through you. When you say things to me it's encouraging me because I see you living life in the Spirit of God, and we're going to talk about how to be there a little bit more in a moment.

So we ask, you know, what's it look like to have the Spirit of God in your life? John 14, verses 16-17, Jesus says:

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

– JOHN 14:16-17 (ESV)

That word *Helper*—He says, "**I'll send you another Helper,**"—that word *Helper* is a word we're familiar with, *paraclete*, it's the word in Greek¹ *parakaleó*; *kaleó* meaning "to come," *para*, "alongside." So the Holy Spirit Jesus says will be your helper, *paraclete*, *parakaleó*, who will come alongside of you. That is such great news. Every other false belief system says that you've got to work your way to become good enough so that God can accept you. What we believe and what the Bible teaches is that we were not good enough, we couldn't save ourselves, but that Jesus saved us and it's merely an act of grace. And when we get saved it isn't because all of a sudden we figured out how to become "good enough" for God, the only reason why God looks on us as He does is because of the righteousness of Christ in us, so we go, "Anything good in me is all Jesus." And the Holy Spirit comes alongside, *parakaleó*, called alongside, to help us to live this thing called the Christian life.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. – EPHESIANS 2:8-9 (ESV)

Ephesians Chapter 1 is another one of those passages if you're going to take some time this week to just drill down on this a little bit, it's a passage I'd love for you to look at. And listen as I read Ephesians 1

¹ Transcriber Note: According to Strong's Greek, the word "Helper" used in John 14:16 is the word *paraklētos* (Strong's Greek #3875), not *parakaleó* (Strong's Greek #3870). *Paraklētos* defined: "called to one's aid" with usage listed as "(a) an advocate, intercessor, (b) a consoler, comforter, helper, (c) Paraclete." Source: <https://biblehub.com/greek/3875.htm>. *Parakaleó* defined: "to call to or for, to exhort, to encourage," with usage listed as "(a) I send for, summon, invite, (b) I beseech, entreat, beg, (c) I exhort, admonish, (d) I comfort, encourage, console." Source: <https://biblehub.com/greek/3870.htm>. *Parakaleó* appears 109 times throughout the New Testament but none of them are in the book of John. Source: https://biblehub.com/greek/strongs_3870.htm

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to the progression of some words, and I'll highlight them as I go through:

¹³ In him you also, when you

— *and here's the word, heard* —

heard the word of truth,

— *remember the Scripture in Romans says faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God,² so this is why we read the Word of God out loud a lot in this room* —

the gospel of your salvation,

— *that's what we just talked about, listen to this:*

and believed in him,

— *that's the next step after you hear it, you know this is true, God's Spirit is moving in your heart going, "You need to do this." There's some of you in this room today that you're at that place in your life, like, "It's time. I've been holding back. I've just not been sure, but as I'm hearing this I'm getting it" – and that's because God's Spirit's moving in you. There's nothing in us that's smart enough or good enough or godly enough to figure this out or get to that place, but God's Spirit moves in us. We hear the truth and we respond by believing in Jesus alone for our salvation. And then it says:*

were sealed

— *and that's the next step* —

with the promised Holy Spirit,

— *and then listen to this:*

¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance

— *in other words, will be sealed by the Holy Spirit the moment you get saved, the moment you believe, and that guarantees your inheritance in Heaven, something beyond this life. I like this word for the guarantee, there's more, there's more to come. And then it says this:*

until we acquire possession of it,

— *because we're not there yet* —

to the praise of his glory.

– EPHESIANS 1:13-14 (ESV)

This is all about God.

And by the way, we talk about this view of how we look at life, let's begin to think about that as we understand Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Trinity, three in one, that as we become overwhelmed with who God is it draws our praise to Him. That's why we for this series are preaching first and singing at the end because we believe that theology, understanding who God is, leads to doxology, our praise of God.

At the moment of our salvation the Holy Spirit regenerates us, let me walk you through that just a little bit. It's sort of the picture, the idea of regeneration, of a washing machine cleaning you up and scrubbing you up. Remember we just said you're not good enough, it wasn't because you figured it out, it was because of what Jesus did for you. He took you as a sinner and He forgave you and it's because of just pure on grace. When you get saved the Holy Spirit of God regenerates you, comes inside of you, and He begins to clean you up. Let me read Titus 3:5:

² Romans 10:17 (ESV): **So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.**



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⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy,

— *listen to this:*

by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

– TITUS 3:5 (ESV)

This is something completely spiritual that's going on. Something spiritual goes on inside of you in that moment that you believe in Jesus and trust in Him; where you're changed, you're cleaned, you're transformed, and you're made new. Romans 8:9 says:

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit,

— *something's changed. In the past you lived according to the flesh, whatever I wanted, and by the way, if you're not living for eternity and you're just living for today that's all there is to live for. Understand the Spirit of God's living in you:*

if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

– ROMANS 8:9 (ESV)

You cannot be saved and not have the Spirit of God. If you put your trust in Jesus, He comes into your life, He indwells you, He regenerates you, cleans you up. There's a lot of false teaching out there; there's something that's going to come later and then all of a sudden you're going to find it and you're gonna have this ecstatic moment when the Spirit comes on you. No. The moment you put your trust in Jesus. That's why Jesus told His disciples go wait in this room,³ He knew we can't do this Christian life alone. Don't go out there and try to do something without God, He says to His disciples wait until the Spirit comes. And the Scripture is clear the Spirit comes into our life at the time of salvation.

The Holy Spirit also seals us, we read those words a moment ago, 2nd Corinthians 1:22:

²¹ And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us,

²² and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

– 2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22 (ESV)

I hope you're starting to see a little bit of a theme here. The Spirit of God is the thing that is changing us in this moment. When He talks about the seal, you remember that king's ring back in old times that had a signet on it and he put that wax on a document, they'd roll it up and place that ring on that and seal it, you knew if it had been messed with and you knew if it had come from the king because of the seal that was on it. If you put your trust in Jesus you have gone through that process—you've heard the truth, you believed in Him, the next words were He has sealed that deal and you can know because of the Spirit of God in your life. It is an irreversible action. It isn't one of those things that you mess up tomorrow and you're out and you better go figure it out again and go hang your head and feel bad and go do a bunch of penance. No. The Spirit of God is in your life.

Ephesians 4:29-30 says:

²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.



³ See Acts 1

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— and here's the words I read earlier:

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

– EPHESIANS 4:29-30 (ESV)

It doesn't say when you mess up He's going to throw you out; what He's saying is it grieves the Holy Spirit of God, and each one of us who love God and follow Him, we do not want to grieve God.

The Holy Spirit also baptizes us. When you hear about the Holy Spirit coming into your life you'll hear a lot about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Now some of you have been here when we've done baptism up here in water, that's different, that's an outward symbol of us putting our trust in Jesus and us saying to the world, "I am in Christ." So to be placed into that water is to be baptized, that word just literally means "to be placed into," to be placed into the body of Christ. When He talks about the baptism of the Holy Spirit the word is a little changed in the Greek, it's the word *baptizó*, and that word speaks of this picture that you guys would understand of soaking in something. So we have dishes and pour a little Dawn in there and you let it soak and then it just comes off nice and clean.

In our lives the baptism of the Holy Spirit is an ongoing process, so it's a "soaking," it is not a one-time event but an ongoing process. And the Greek language is so capable of doing that with just the change of

Strong's Concordance

baptó: to dip

Strong's #911

a couple of letters in the word from *baptó* to *baptizó*, and this is *baptizó* which says that when we are baptized in the Spirit of God at the time of salvation that this process now will not

Strong's Concordance

baptizó: to dip, sink

Strong's #907

just be a one-time process but the Holy Spirit inside of us, cleaning us up and guiding us and living within us, is an ongoing process. That's why when you see someone who's known Jesus and walked with Jesus longer there's something sweet about them, because as they're growing and allow the Holy Spirit to move in their life they begin to change radically. Listen to Acts 1:5: [JESUS SPEAKING]

⁵ "for John baptized with water,

— that's what we talked about this —

but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

– ACTS 1:5 (ESV)

Romans 8:11 says:

¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead

— oh, by the way, do you catch that little piece of information? It was the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead, that's powerful —

dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

– ROMANS 8:11 (ESV)

So here are things you can't lose:

- you can't lose that cleaning and that regeneration that He's given you;
- you can't lose that seal that He's placed on you, that is His seal, you can't undo that;
- and when He baptizes you in the Spirit you can't undo that.



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I want you today—if you've ever put your trust in Jesus just by what we're teaching this morning and what we know the Holy Spirit does—is to have an assurance of your salvation. There is nothing more miserable than waking up every day going, "Did I do things bad enough that God no longer loves me and has pulled His hand off of me?" That's crazy talk. If I didn't have to do anything to get saved, why now do I think I have *to do* something to keep saved?

If I didn't have to do anything to get saved,
why now do I think
I have to do something to keep saved?

Let's go a step further. Why would I do something good then? Because I love Jesus. Because God's Spirit is changing me and I'm becoming more like Him and I have a desire to do what's right and He's teaching me and training me how to do those things. Listen to Romans 8:16—remember the Spirit is inside of you if you've put your trust in Jesus—listen to what it says:

**¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
– ROMANS 8:16 (ESV)**

The Spirit of God is going to constantly remind you you're a child of God. He's not going to go, "Yeah, it's stinking today, you're out of it." He'll convict you, but He is constantly going to bear witness that you're a child of God.

Matthew 28:19-20, we call it the great commission, many of you are familiar with it, [JESUS] says this:

¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

— *we've already talked about that, name singular* —

²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

— *and here's what I want you to hear:*

And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

– MATTHEW 28:19-20 (ESV)

And if you feel alone, if you feel separated, if you feel powerless today, if you feel like you're sort of left out there to try to figure it out on your own—if you know Jesus you're not. Claim this verse, say, *God, I believe in You. I believe You are with me. I know You won't leave me alone. This very verse that You gave me the mission for my life to go and make disciples You say You're not going to leave me, You'll be with me forever.* And God does not lie.

I want to point this one out because I think this one is so important. It is this Holy Spirit's role to draw you to Jesus, to point you towards Jesus. The Holy Spirit is constantly doing that, trying to draw our attention to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. So back to John 15, and I told you John 15 and John 16 and even back in John 14, be great to read, to grab the whole context around this, I'm going to grab a little context right here. John 15:26 says this:

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth,

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— capture that word —

who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

– JOHN 15:26 (ESV)

Jesus. I'm going to point our attention to Jesus. The Spirit's role is to just keep on pointing us to Jesus. That's why even here at Calvary when we're sharing constantly even, you see the CF, we always are referred to as "Christ first" and we want you to have a Christ-first experience here, we want to always be pointing our attention towards Jesus. Listen to John 16:1, it's two verses beyond this, it says this:

¹ "I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away."

– JOHN 16:1 (ESV)

One of the most prevalent conversations that I have are with people asking me about their children who are not following Jesus, about Christian leaders that have just walked away from the faith, about people that they used to be close with in a small group that no longer are walking with Jesus and just have blown it off. When He talks here He says in verse [JOHN] 15:26, "**when the Helper comes**" and sends from the Father, proceeds, He'll bear witness of me—just constantly drawing our attention to Jesus. We take our eyes off of Jesus, He says don't do that, I'm sending you the Helper, I'm sending you my Holy Spirit so that you can keep your eyes on Me so you will not fall away. It's gonna be sin that we love more than Jesus that the Holy Spirit's going to convict us of, and when He convicts you of that sin repent of it because if you don't what ends up happening is you get this hard heart and before you know it you're turning away. It's a sad moment because God loves you, He died for you.

And there is a massive deconstruction movement going on in our world today and it's almost weekly that I read an article of someone who we once thought the world of, that wrote a book or sang in a great Christian music group who says, "I'm not a Christian anymore." Well, that shocks us, it messes with us, and I think a lot of the reason is because we have not understood our God. We become part of a movement, we become part of an emotional thing that's going on, but we have not understood our God. And that's why I'm just so appreciative of each of you drilling down so deep on this to understand who God is, because when you understand who God is you recognize how blessed we are to know Him and to have His Holy Spirit active in our lives today.

Holy Spirit is going to guide you into truth. I hear a lot of people say, "I just don't know enough." And I get that, and there's times I'm reading my Bible and I'm like, "Lee, why don't you know that? You've read that before." And I'm looking at my Bible and there's little notes and it's still not in my head. That's why I gotta keep on reading my Bible. And God's Holy Spirit continues to teach me and to train me, and it is the role of the Holy Spirit to guide us into truth.

I love it, it's been fun in this series to find some of you hearing something that I said going, "Hmmm... is that true?" That's good because I've seen a bunch of you going, "Wait a minute, I'm going to go to the list of verses that pastor has on the website, I'm going to read through those." Because we're constantly being prompted by the Holy Spirit to know truth and we're being drawn towards that truth.

Again in John 16, verse 12:

¹² "I still have many things to say to you,

— Jesus says —

but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.



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— *listen to these words:*

¹⁴ He will glorify me,

— *He will glorify Jesus* —

for he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

— JOHN 16:12-14 (ESV)

Again, it's pointing towards Jesus. Anything you hear that is preached or taught that doesn't have Jesus in the right place it is a false teaching. So when someone says, "The Holy Spirit is telling me" — if it doesn't lift up Jesus they're not telling you the truth.

Holy Spirit convicts us. Listen to these words, again from John 16:

⁷ "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world

— *and listen to what He says* —

concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:"

— JOHN 16:7-8 (ESV)

When He says "**convict the world**" understand what that means, that means everyone. The Holy Spirit is in the process of letting people know that they are sinners and they are separated from God. That's why your non-Christian friends will often times ask you questions. It's why Romans 1 says that there is even through this world this conscience that lets us know right and wrong, which causes your non-Christian friends to ask questions. It's why when you ask them a question about right and wrong they quickly rattle off two or three—*nah, I've never murdered anyone...* you know, *I don't lie, well, much...* because there is this conviction that comes from the Holy Spirit to all who would listen in.

By the way, you may hear this comment from time to time: "I feel like you're so condemning." I've oftentimes asked the question, "Why would you say that? I didn't say anything to you. I didn't say anything about your lifestyle. I didn't hear anything about your language." I was in a store not too long ago and I said to my daughter as we walked in, no one could have heard me, I said, "Do you hear the music they're playing in here?" I'd never heard anything so profane. I didn't even know such a thing existed. It was one of those, you know, cool stores where, you know, clothes that don't fit me are bought, and shoes that if I wore them you'd be laughing at me. I mean, every third word was just profane.

Anyhow, we ended up talking to the clerk and in the course of talking to him he said, "What do you do for a living?" I said, "Oh, I'm a pastor." We talked a little further and as I'm walking out he goes, "Sorry about the music." I said to my daughter, "Why would he say that?" He didn't know that offended me, I know he didn't hear me, it was too loud, the music, there's no way he could hear me. Some of you feel that way in here, too. Right? He was convicted because when the Holy Spirit is moving in lives, when we step into their place people sense that. And that's why they bring it up and they talk about it.

The passage here says that He will convict of sin, He will convict of righteousness. Again, righteousness is all about who God is, that's why we've been lingering on The Trinity—God the Father, God the Son,

**GOD IS
ALWAYS
RIGHT**

now God the Holy Spirit this week, and Pastor John's going to come put it all into a nice package next week—because when we talk about the Holy Spirit convicting us of righteousness, He's convicting us of who God is. One of the things that we say a lot here at Calvary that has to do with righteousness is God is always right, His ways are always right and always better than ours. He is



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faithful to His promises. But way overshadowing all of that is what I shared earlier, His imputed righteousness where Jesus—because of what He did on the cross when I believe on Him—He imputes/places on me His righteousness which puts me in right relationship with God. This doesn't happen without the conviction of the Holy Spirit.

It says He convicts the world of sin, we talked about that; of righteousness, being put into right relationship with God; and of judgment, something people don't like talking about. In fact, every time you talk about it someone's going, "Don't talk about that." This is talking about specifically judgment where a person is going outside of Jesus. The subject of Hell is not popular. Matthew 10:28, listen to these words:

28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

– MATTHEW 10:28 (ESV)

And the Holy Spirit is reminding those who have not put their trust in Jesus that if they don't there is a certain expectation of judgment coming. And that's why there is this constant popular movement by Satan to say there is no Hell, and there's many pastors that'll move down that path because it's not popular to say that there's a Hell. Because if there's a Hell then that indicates those who haven't put their trust in Jesus that they're going there, and for those of us who have put our trust in Jesus, some of our loved ones won't be there. And I've had people say to me when they get this realization, "Then I don't want Jesus because if I'm not going to be where *so-and-so* is now, I don't want Jesus." Crazy thinking but that's how the enemy moves and how the enemy works.

The Holy Spirit sets us apart for ministry and I want you to move away from thinking of someone like me that does it as the pastor of a church or a missionary who does it being sent somewhere, listen to these words, Acts 13:2:

2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

– ACTS 13:2 (ESV)

Let me just start out with the foundation—when they were worshiping the Lord and fasting—putting ourselves in a position and a posture and a place of spiritual activity that allows us to be a place where God's Spirit can move. It says He set apart for ministry Barnabas and Saul.

I'm just going to be quick because my time's out. Ever felt like God was telling you to serve Him? By the way, that is why I never say here, "Hey, I need volunteers." You know, they need volunteers down at the kennel, and they need volunteers at school PTA or whatever they call it, I don't know, I'm out of that phase of my life. No, we're looking for people here who God's setting you apart and calling you to ministry because in that there is power. And there are some of you who you get that, the Holy Spirit's been tugging at your heart, *Look, I want you to serve Me; I want you to go to that next step.* And it's not a next step because we put it on our website going, "Here are the next steps if you're going to be at Calvary," it's way deeper than that. The Spirit of God moving in your heart is going to put you in a place where you want to be about serving Him. Let me move on, my time is up.

Holy Spirit prays for us. I've got to say this one today, let me read this verse, Romans 8:26:

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

– ROMANS 8:26 (ESV)



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This might be one of the most operative things that I might say to you this morning that are of value to you. There are some of you today that just don't know what to pray about, or I mean you don't know how to say what you need to pray. I saw a thing on Facebook last night [LOWERED TONE SPOKEN UNDER HIS BREATH] Facebook is just fabulous, right? There was a picture, it was a letter, it said "Dear God" and all you could see on the letter were tears and then had the name signed. And I thought that represents this where I go "God" [LOOKS UP TO THE HEAVENS WITH OUTSTRETCHED ARMS AT A LOSS FOR WORDS]. And I think in that moment we can pray to the Holy Spirit, "I don't know what to say," and He says, "I will pray for you in groanings too deep for words."

By the way, this isn't you just saying a bunch of mumbo jumbo, this is the Spirit of God is saying something too deep for words, words can't even express it, but you're saying, "God, let your Holy Spirit say, I don't know what to say right now." It's those tears falling down on that page.

Listen, the last thing I want you to hear is that the Spirit God continues to change us. Listen to Ephesians 5:18:

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

– EPHESIANS 5:18 (ESV)

And that word "**filled with the Spirit**" means to be continually filled with the Spirit. It says don't be drunk with wine, you never get drunk and then you're like stuck, you're like drunk forever because you got drunk that once. The only way you're gonna be drunk again is to keep on getting drunk and keep on getting drunk. He says don't get drunk, but He says here's what you do do – get filled and keep on getting filled and let the Spirit of God keep on moving in your life.

Three weeks from this morning I'm going to go to one more subject on the Holy Spirit that I want to talk about, it's the subject of spiritual gifts. The moment you get saved God puts spiritual gifts in your life that you can use as part of the body of Christ. And when He talks about the whole body He talks about our body as having different parts. Imagine today what your life would be like without your big toe. There's some big toes in here, there's some armpits in here, He gives you gifts to serve and to be part of the body. We're going to talk about that in three weeks—worship team, come up, my time is up—you gotta come back in three weeks for that.

Let me end with this, the Holy Spirit puts fruits in your life and those fruits are described in Galatians 5, verses 22-23 as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and faithfulness, and self-control:

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

– GALATIANS 5:22-23 (ESV)

I wish I had a lot of time to talk about this. I've been thinking about these words a lot but here's what I would like to throw out to you right now: Put your

THE WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES

The Holy Spirit is our Helper
The Holy Spirit Regenerates us
The Holy Spirit Seals us
The Holy Spirit Baptizes us
The Holy Spirit Will Never Leave us
The Holy Spirit Draws us to Jesus
The Holy Spirit Guides us into Truth
The Holy Spirit Convicts us
The Holy Spirit Sets us Apart for Ministry
The Holy Spirit Prays for us
The Holy Spirit Continues to Change us
The Holy Spirit Gives us Spiritual Gifts
The Holy Spirit Brings Fruit into Our Life



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trust in Jesus, have His Holy Spirit come in your life, He will change you, and it will begin to change every aspect of your life. I hope that you just continue this thought process, there's so much more to say and we'll continue talking about it.

Lord God,



We invite your Holy Spirit to be very present in this room right now. And as we worship You and praise You we fall on our faces before You and ask You to guide us, to talk to us. Where there's need for conviction, convict us. Where there's need to be called into ministry, call us to serve You. Lord, where there's need right now to be helped, help us right now. Lord God, we are a people desperately calling and coming through Your Holy Spirit, even some praying, asking that You would speak on our behalf because we don't even know how to pray and we're going to depend on that right now. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I'm going to ask you to stand up, if you would like as the band begins to lead I would invite you to just come up here. This might be a time for your tears to fall onto the ground and say, "God, I need your Holy Spirit. Thank You for walking beside me, Holy Spirit." And just take these moments just as a moment to respond to Jesus as they sing these beautiful songs.



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Keywords: Holy Spirit, understand

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