

## Week Five: The Holy Spirit

### Scripture references:

As co-existent with God: Genesis 1:1-2; Matthew 28:18-20

As giver of life and gifts: Job 32:8 & 33:4;  
Matthew 1:18-20/Luke 1:35; I Corinthians 12

As adoptor, intercessor and counselor:

Matthew 3:16-4:1/Mark 1:10-12/Luke 3:22/John 1:32 (the baptism of Jesus); John 14:15-21, 25-26; Romans 8

As constant presence & leading force:

Psalms 139, esp. 7-10; the books of Acts and Romans, generally; Galatians 3:2-4; Galatians 5



### Points to take away:

1. The Spirit is “a noun that acts like a verb”: It/he/she is activity with a location (in and among us), a direction (toward Jesus) and a mission (transformation of our lives and the world in the kin(g)dom).
2. The Spirit is holy, personal and relational — not merely a life force or an energy spark, the Spirit engages with us and dwells in us, and is to be worshipped and glorified along with God and Jesus.
3. The Spirit is the giver of life and joy.
4. The Spirit working in us is what makes our lives more Godly (*purifies* and *sanctifies*). The sign of our spiritual maturity (our Godliness) is our measure of “the fruits of the Spirit”. (Galatians 5:22-23)
5. The Spirit is our constant teacher (*comforts, counsels, reveals, and convicts*).
6. Only the Spirit gives us power to be like Jesus and carry out Jesus’ commandments, commissions, and ministries.

“Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? ... After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?” (Galatians 3:2-4)

A daily, momentary, constant prayer to invite the Holy Spirit to be active in you:

Holy Spirit of God, you've got me. I'm yours, and I'm glad today to listen for your direction. Fill me with your presence and lead me. Turn on your power, Lord, and let it flow through my life today.

To pray it, sit still first.

### A very few resources for further exploration:

*Note: the Spirit is experienced, not studied, so this is mostly practical stuff.*

Two pretty good web outlines of Spirit-stuff: <http://www.spirithome.com>, and <http://mb-soft.com/believe/text/holyspir.htm>

A self-study workbook: Larry Keefauver, *Experiencing the Holy Spirit* (Thomas Nelson Publishers:2000).

A spirit-centered devotional: Garrie F. Williams, *Welcome, Holy Spirit* (Review and Herald Publishing: 1994)

