

Christian Discipleship Guide



“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, ‘All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.’” (Matthew 28:18-20)

8. The Holy Spirit

4. The day you received the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, the Holy Spirit of God took up permanent residency inside your body (*Ephesians 1:13-14*). This third person of the Trinity is perhaps the most misunderstood and ignored part of a Christian's relationship with God. We will now learn about the functions and attributes of the Holy Spirit and get a basic understanding of what the Holy Spirit does in our lives.
5. The Holy Spirit is God. He is the third member of the Trinity (*Matthew 28:19; 1 John 1:1; 1 John 5:6-7; Hebrews 9:14; Isaiah 48:16-17*). He is a person, not just an unseen "force" (*Romans 8:27; John 16:7-15*). In the Bible, He is called by various names, including Holy Ghost (*Acts 2:4*), Comforter (*John 14:16,26*) and "the Spirit" (*John 1:33*). He is distinct from the Father and the Son, as can be seen in the following Bible verses:
 6. According to *John 14:16*, the Son prays, the Father sends, and the Holy Spirit comes to abide.
 7. In *Acts 2:33*, the Son is exalted to the right hand of the Father, the Father is on His throne, and the Holy Spirit is received by the Son and given to the Church.
 8. In *Luke 3:21-22*, at the baptism of Jesus, God the Father said, "Thou art my beloved Son, in thee I am well pleased." God the Son was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. God the Holy Spirit descended in bodily shape in the form of a dove.
 9. In the words of R. A. Torrey, "The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three separate personalities, with mutual relations one to another, speaking to one another, recognizing each other."
10. The Holy Spirit performs a number of important functions in our lives, including the following:
 11. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin (*John 16:8-9*).
 - (1) In the unsaved, He convicts of sin to bring them to salvation.
 - (2) In the saved, He convicts of sin to keep them clean and show them how to live for Jesus Christ.
 - (3) Acknowledging conviction by the Holy Spirit can lead to repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation with God (*2 Corinthians 5:17-18*).
 - (4) Ignoring conviction by the Holy Spirit can lead to a seared conscience and hardened heart
(*1 Timothy 4:1-2; Hebrews 3:13-15; Revelation 12:10*).
12. The Holy Spirit creates and regenerates (*Genesis 1:2; Job 33:4*). In Jesus Christ, you are a new creature, born again by the Holy Spirit (*John 3:3-8*).
13. The Holy Spirit enters you and seals you once you are saved (*1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 4:30; Ephesians 1:13-14*).
14. The Holy Spirit bears witness to you of your salvation (*1 John 4:13; Romans 8:16*).
15. The Holy Spirit teaches you the Bible (*John 14:26; John 16:13-15; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10*).

16. The Holy Spirit intercedes in prayer for you (*Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 2:18*).
17. The Holy Spirit comforts you in time of need (*John 14:15-18; 2 Timothy 1:7*).
18. The Holy Spirit empowers you to serve God (*Zechariah 4:6; Ephesians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 4:7*).
19. The Holy Spirit of God produces a set of character qualities in you as you give your life to Him and walk in His power. This set of character qualities is called the FRUIT (singular) of the Spirit. It is singular because all of these qualities are produced at the same time by a close relationship with the Holy Spirit (*Galatians 5:22-23*). The FRUIT of the Spirit consists of Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance. When you are born again, you have all nine qualities.
20. We will now see what it means to “be filled with the Spirit” and learn how we can accomplish this fullness.
21. Comparing Scripture with Scripture shows that by reading the Word of God and letting it dwell in our hearts, we can produce the same results in our lives as being filled with the Spirit. The more we saturate our minds with the Word of God, the closer our relationship to the Holy Spirit will be (*Ephesians 5:18-19; Colossians 3:16*).
22. We simply walk in the Spirit. Walking is a steady, consistent, natural process of growth (*Galatians 5:16-18; Galatians 5:25; Romans 8:1*).
23. We need to allow God to control our lives. The filling of the Holy Spirit is not us getting more of the Holy Spirit. We received all of Him at the time of salvation. It is the Holy Spirit getting more of us.
24. We need to be patient and consistent! Being controlled by the Holy Spirit does not happen overnight. It is a lifelong process of spiritual growth.

25.

26. Questions:

27. At what time does the Holy Spirit come into the believer’s life?

28. Why does the Holy Spirit convict the unsaved of sin?

29. What can happen if someone ignores conviction by the Holy Spirit?

30. What is the result of the Holy Spirit in your life?

31. In order for Christians to be “filled with the Spirit,” in what they must invest time learning & living?

32. **Additional Scripture Verses:**

33. *Matthew 28:19; 1 John 5:6-7; Hebrews 9:14; Isaiah 48:16-17; 1 John 1:1; Romans 8:27; John 16:7-8; John 13-15; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Galatians 5:16; Galatians 5:22-23.*