

The Holy Spirit 101

A very clear and confusing conversation:

John 14:15-31

Jesus gave His followers two **ASSURANCES**:

HEAVEN comes later.

The **HOLY SPIRIT** comes now.

Explaining the unexplainable:

John 14:15-31, Romans 5:6-10, Galatians 2:20, 2 Timothy 1:7, John 10:10

The Holy Spirit is:

a **WHO**, *not* a **WHAT**.

a **RELATIONSHIP** to pursue, not a **THEOLOGY** to understand.

His role is not to make us **LIKE JESUS**, but to produce
the **LIFE OF JESUS** in us.

OK, but how?

John 14:15-31, Romans 7, 8 & 12

Every day, we choose to either **WALK IN** the Spirit,
or **SILENCE** the Spirit.

If the Spirit's main goal is to teach, we have to:

LISTEN

LEARN

OBEY

SERVE

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Jesus gave His followers two _____:

_____ comes later.

The _____ comes now.

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The Holy Spirit is:

a _____, *not* a _____.

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or _____ the Spirit.

If the Spirit's main goal is to teach, we have to:

Food for Thought for the week of August 27, 2023

In the passage this weekend, Jesus tells the disciples about the Holy Spirit. Chris mentioned the purpose of the Holy Spirit is in His name—to make us “holy,” or set apart. Scripture also tells us how to know if the Holy Spirit is working in us—the same way lemon trees bear lemons, the Holy Spirit produces holy fruit in us. Read Galatians 5:16-26 and spot the difference between the fruit of the flesh and the Spirit.

Galatians 5:16-26 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

Next week, we will dive into what is involved in growing the fruit of the Spirit (remaining in Christ), but this week, let's just stop and take a fruit inspection in our lives. Looking at each fruit in the list below, ask yourself: In the last year, have I seen more or less of this fruit in my life? Mark those you have seen more of with a (+) and those you have seen less of with a (-).

Fruit of the Spirit

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-control

Now, looking at the list of the acts of the flesh in Galatians 5, which ones have you seen less of in your life in the last year? Are there any you want to continue to see less of in your life?

Each of the fruits of the Spirit is also a reflection of God's character. Take a look at each of the fruits in the list above and reflect on how you've seen God embody that fruit in His own character and actions. (i.e., When has He been patient with you? What does His gentleness look like? How does God show self-control?)