

When Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit He always used a personal pronoun. “*He*”, “*Him*”, or “*Himself*”. Never once did He refer to the Holy Spirit as “*it*” or a “*feeling*”
(see John 14-16)

The key to the mysteries of God, the revelation of God’s Word, and the power of God is our relationship with the Holy Spirit

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

(John 14:26, NKJV)

Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit with a personal pronoun because He related to the Holy Spirit as a real person

- Not an invisible, intangible, mysterious, or unknown entity

This is important to know because the Third Person of the Godhead possesses the attributes of personality

- Just as the Father and the Son do

We are made in God’s image therefore we share the same attributes

- This allows us to relate to the Holy Spirit personally
- He has come to dwell in and share traits we are already familiar with

He is at work in us to help us understand Him, know Him, relate to Him, cooperate with Him, and enjoy fellowship with Him

What kind of attributes does the Holy Spirit possess?

- He gives joy – **Acts 8:8; Galatians 5:22**
- He gives love – **Romans 5:5; Galatians 5:22**
- He experiences sorrow – **Ephesians 4:30**
- In **John 14, 15, and 16** we read about a myriad of things he does that any person might do
- Help, encourage, comfort, coach, etc.
- He has every trait we have, yet without a sinful nature

The leadership of the early church was well acquainted with the personality of the Holy Spirit

“For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things:”

(Acts 15:28, NKJV)

Even if they hadn't received a specific word they knew Holy Spirit so well that they knew what “seemed good” to Him

- They knew what He liked and what He didn't like
- They knew what “seemed good” to Him because they had more than just an intellectual knowledge of Him
- They shared real communion with Holy Spirit

When you know certain people well you know what they would think about a situation even without asking them or communicating with them

- If I am upset Tricia already knows without me saying anything
- She knows how I would react in a given situation
- She knows what I like and what would excite me
- She knows because we have spent so much time together
- Lived with me, talked with me, prayed with me
- Tricia knows me better than anyone else
- Likewise, no one knows Tricia better than I do

Even though we cannot see the Holy Spirit His invitation to know Him intimately is a very real possibility

“But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.”

(Matthew 6:6, NKJV)

- Closet – *“a secret place where someone would hide his or her most valuable possessions”*
- What would you do with a room like that?
- You would guard and protect it
- Over time the original word used here came to mean, *“a safe place to put one’s money or treasure”*

By the time the New Testament was written the word had come to describe a bedroom

- A place where a husband and wife would share their most intimate moments
- Jesus was saying, “*when you pray go into your bed chamber*”
- That doesn’t mean your “*secret place*” needs to be a bed chamber
- Jesus was trying to convey the idea of intimacy with the Holy Spirit

When we enter into prayer it should be a place that is guarded and kept, a place without interruptions

- A place where the Holy Spirit can speak to our hearts
- A place where we can bare our most intimate thoughts to Him
- A place of mingling our human spirit with the divine Spirit in sweet communion
- A time and place that we carve out daily to have intimate fellowship with the Godhead through the Holy Spirit
- It doesn’t matter where we do this, but it should be private
- A time when we put everything else down and concentrate on Him

“And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.” (Matthew 14:23, NKJV)

You may say, *“Yes I know I need to spend quality time with the Lord, but my schedule is just too hectic, it's too difficult for me to find time to do it.”*

- Do you make time to...
- Surf the internet?
- Watch the news?
- Go to the movies?
- Engage in other forms of entertainment?

You will always make time for what is important to you!

When our relationship with the Holy Spirit is strong it makes my relationships with my wife, children, and other close relationships strong

- When my relationship with Him is weak it affects my other relationships negatively
- The truth is, apart from Him, I truly have nothing to offer

When I am in a close relationship with the Holy Spirit He also compensates for my weaknesses

- Think about it
- How did Jesus have the physical strength to minister to the multitudes without physically collapsing?
- Jesus spent His mornings, evenings, and sometimes entire nights in prayer with the Father

You see this true with the apostle Paul as well!

The apostle Paul faced a continual onslaught of grueling ordeals, yet he never seemed to wane in strength as he faced every trial bravely and victoriously

“We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.” (2 Corinthians 4:8–10, NKJV)

I believe we can find the key to Paul’s determination and success and unbroken strength

*“For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the **supply** of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,” (Philippians 1:19, NKJV)*

- Supply – a compound word meaning, “*on behalf of*” and “*choir*” or “*choral presentation*”
- Where we get our word, “*choreography*”
- This word that Paul used means, “*on behalf of the choir*”

Thousands of years ago in classical Greece

- A huge drama and choral company had given all their resources to making a large performance succeed
- They ran out of money before they could finish

In the moment of despair, a wealthy man stepped in and funded the project to the finish

- He made a huge contribution *on behalf of the choir*

Have you ever felt you have given your best effort and feel like you don't have an ounce of energy left?

- You have a divine promise to claim

When it looks like your resources are drained and you're unable to take another step unless someone steps up and helps

- It is at that exact moment the Holy Spirit becomes your personal benefactor

Your supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ steps into your life and donates a massive, overwhelming, generous contribution of the Holy spirit's grace and power for your cause

- He will complete the work in you and me!

When we have nothing left to give, Jesus Christ picks up where we leave off through the Ministry of the Holy Spirit

“being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;”
(Philippians 1:6, NKJV)

However, we can cut off that supernatural power by failing to set aside quality time with the Lord so we can receive His divine infusion of power and continual supply

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,” **(Jude 20, NKJV)**

Learn to enjoy the fellowship of the Holy Spirit so His power is free to work through you, sustaining you through the most difficult times

If anyone understood the partnership with the Holy Spirit, it was the Lord Jesus Christ

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

(Acts 10:38, NKJV)

From His birth, nothing He did and nothing that happened in line with divine purpose for His life occurred apart from the power of the Holy Spirit

- Jesus and the Holy Spirit were always together while Jesus was on earth

If Jesus needed this kind of ongoing partnership to accomplish His divine role on earth, you and I must have that partnership as well

Because no one has ever known the Holy Spirit as well as Jesus we must look at what He had to say about His personality, power, gifts, and character

- In His final moments with His disciples, Jesus shares these attributes
- Imagine how difficult it must have been for them to find out that Jesus would be leaving them
- For more than three years they lived with Him
- Saw Him perform miracle after miracle

It must have seemed like they were facing the end of their wonderful encounter with the Lord

“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

(John 14:16–18, NKJV)

- *“Pray”* – a legal word used in the gospels to describe Jesus’ prayer life
- He was going to present His case to the Father
- Almost as if he was legally defending them and their rights
- This case would be so concrete, clear, and unmistakable that the Father would have to respond
- It was crucial to the disciples' survival for the Father to send another Helper to all who call on the name of Jesus
- The Holy Spirit was the Gift of the Father

“Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

(Acts 2:38, NKJV)

- Given in response to Jesus’ legal request for the disciples and us!
- This was the Father’s gift
- Free and without charge to everyone who declares Jesus Christ as Lord

Jesus was careful to use keywords when speaking of the Holy Spirit in our text

- “*Another*” – one who would be identical to Jesus in the way that He would speak, act, think and operate

The same concept is seen earlier in the same Chapter

“Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?” (John 14:8–9, NKJV)

Jesus is the exact image of the Father

³ He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the ^[a]out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God’s] nature...

Hebrews 1:3 (AMPC)

- Jesus reflects the character of His heavenly father in every way
- If you saw Jesus when He walked the face of the earth, you saw the Father

“Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.” (John 5:19–20, NKJV)

One of the best ways to discern God's will for a certain situation is to look at how Jesus responded to similar situations

- How do I know if God wants to heal the sick – look to Jesus
- When Jesus delivered those who were demonically oppressed it was the demonstration of the Father's will to set the captive free
- Jesus never acted on His own or out of Character with the will of the Father

Just as Jesus is the perfect imprint and very image of the Father's nature, the Holy Spirit perfectly represents the life and nature of Jesus Christ

Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Comforter

- He used this term four times in [John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7](#)
- What comfort means to each of us depends on what we are experiencing in life at any given moment
- If you're tired you need rest or relaxation
- If your heart is broken in a relationship you may just need a friend to talk to
- If someone close just died you may need someone to hug you and pray with you

Comforter – *“one who pleaded a case for someone in a court of law; Someone who was always ready and on standby to help, assist, and strengthen; a personal counselor or advisor”*

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever— (John 14:16 AMPC)

- *Comforter* – a compound word
- *Para* – “very close” or “alongside”
- Coming as close as you can possibly get to someone
- Also used to describe your closest relationships
- There's nothing distant about His relationship with us
- We never have to beg or plead for His help
- He is always with us

“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,”

(Ephesians 1:13, NKJV)

- Although He lives inside of us, experientially He also comes alongside us to assist us in the affairs of life

From the moment we are born again through the rest of our lives on this earth, the Holy Spirit is available for us to draw on His partnership every minute of the day

The second part of our word;

- *Kaleo* – “to beckon or to call”
- Not a picture of someone calling out or yelling verbally but a calling of purpose, intent, and sense of direction

For instance, God calls us to fellowship with Him, He calls unbelievers to repentance and salvation

“But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.” (Matthew 9:13, NKJV)

Both Paul and Peter used this word to describe God’s call to salvation and ministry for themselves and others

“For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.”

(1 Corinthians 15:9, NKJV)

“I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

(Ephesians 4:1, NKJV)

“but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,” (1 Peter 1:15, NKJV)

- We are called to salvation
- We are called to service in the local church
- We are called into the ministry
- The call always points to something with a specific intent
- The Holy Spirit has not accidentally assumed His role in our lives

He comes alongside us to help us and give insight into the divine purpose, plan, and design for our existence

Three Features of the Comforter

The Holy Spirit Remains Close By Us

- We don't need to plead and beg for Him to come near
- He is always nearby
- His place alongside is so permanent that Jesus said He would abide forever – **John 14:16**

The Holy Spirit Has a Calling

- He is specifically called to be alongside us
- Everywhere you go, the Holy Spirit goes too
- He is with you at all times in all circumstances
- That is His calling

The Holy Spirit Has a Job Assignment

- The Holy spirit's job is to help us!

That includes conviction of sin, empowering us for the work of the ministry, imparting spiritual gifts, healing other people through us, and so on

- All of these other functions are simply manifestations of His presence
- The Holy Spirit is responsible for carrying out His heavenly mission

Not according to our demands, desires, preferences, or needs, but according to the will of God