

Acts 1:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

- Jesus did not *suggest* that the apostles wait for the Promise
- Nor did He *recommend* that they heed His instruction
- Rather, He *commanded* them not to depart from Jerusalem until the Promise had come

Jesus placed such high importance of this instruction because the empowerment of the Holy Spirit is essential to all kingdom work

Jesus told them, don't start your ministry, don't start preaching, don't start planting churches until you have been clothed with the Spirit's power

So, Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Genesis 1:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

- God didn't say let “Me” make man, He said “Let Us”
- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – distinct yet One

Acts 10:38 (NKJV)

³⁸ 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.

- **God** anointed **Jesus** with the **Holy Spirit**
- Three distinct Persons working together for a common purpose
- We also see this in **Matthew 3:16**, above

Example:

(H₂O) can manifest as three different forms

- Temperature determines whether it will appear as a solid, liquid, or gas
- The molecular structure of the water never changes
- Its expression will be altered depending on its environment

God is One in purpose with three expressions, who perform unique functions

- When you see the Son, you see the Father – **John 17:21**
- The Spirit was sent to reveal the Son to us – **Ephesians 1:17-18**
- There is only One God – **Deuteronomy 6:4, Romans 3:30, James 2:19**

He is the first Person of the Godhead to appear in scripture

Genesis 1:2 (NKJV)

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

- Holy Spirit is the expression of the Godhead on the face of the earth
- God is on His throne in heaven
- Jesus is seated at His right-hand interceding for us
 - **Mark 16:19; Acts 7:55-56**

Holy Spirit is referred to as both the Spirit of God the Father and the Spirit of Jesus Christ (the Son)

Philippians 1:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ

Matthew 10:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

Likewise, the Spirit helps us, by His grace to empower us to be all that He has created us to be

How Do the Three Work?

1 Corinthians 12:5–7 (NKJV)

⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*:

- The Father, Son and Holy Spirit all serve different rolls
- The Father operates or **Initiates** – *Verse 6*
- The Son **Administrates** – *Verse 5*
- The Holy Spirit **Manifests** – *Verse 7*
- Yet they all work together for the same purpose

In Genesis 1:2

- The Spirit is waiting for the Father to **Initiate** – creative vision
- The Son had to **Administrate** by saying, “*Light be*” – He is the Word
- The Holy Spirit **Manifests** or created that which is spoken

Holy Spirit is the One who actually formed Adam and breathed life into his nostrils – **Genesis 2:7**

Job 33:4 (NKJV)

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

Jesus totally Depended on the Holy Spirit

- He was conceived by the Spirit
- He was taught by the Spirit
- He was empowered by the Spirit at the Jordan river
- He was led by the Spirit
- He didn't do one miracle until He was baptized with the Spirit

John 5:19–20 (NKJV)

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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.

Jesus needed the ongoing partnership of the Holy Spirit to complete His mission, how much more do you and I need Him?

- We sometimes forget how much we need the Holy Spirit
- We must totally depend on Him

Zechariah 4:6 (NKJV)

⁶ So he answered and said to me: “This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts.

Who knows the Holy Spirit better than Jesus?

John 14:15–18 (NKJV)

¹⁵ “If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

- Keep my commandments – Supreme authority
- **Another** – “*another of the same kind*” – Apple or Pear
- **Helper** – “**Para-kletos**” – “*One called closely alongside each of us to provide coaching, direction, instruction, and counsel in our life journey*”

Sadly, the Holy Spirit is all but ignored by many in the Church

- Where in your life do you sense a void or see chaos?
- Where in your life do you need the Spirit do bring you beauty, order, or freedom?

Romans 8:2 (NKJV)

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

If the same Spirit that gave life to Jesus lives in us, shouldn't we live in the same peace, power, and freedom He did?

– **Isaiah 40:28-29**

John 16:7 (NKJV)

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 depart, I will send Him to you.

If Jesus had never left the earth then the Holy Spirit would never had come along side us

- If we would have wanted to talk to Jesus we would have to travel to where He was
- That would be a long line
- The Holy Spirit is always here for us
- He doesn't need to eat or sleep
- He can carry on billions of conversations at the same time
- Remember the Holy Spirit is just like Jesus
- He teaches like Jesus
- He amplifies the things of God like Jesus

How many times have we limited His voice and presence in our lives?

John 16:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

You cannot attempt to understand the Power and Work of the Holy Spirit without first coming to know Him as a person

We must establish in our hearts and minds that He is...

- A divine *Person* – Not an It!
- Infinitely holy, wise, and mighty. Yet, wonderfully tender, sensitive, and compassionate

Even though the Holy Spirit is the Mighty Power of the Trinity, He is sensitive and easily grieved

- It is vital to understand what grieves Him

Ephesians 4:29–32 (NKJV)

²⁹ Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³² And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

- No one likes to hear someone tear down and complain about other people
- He is forgiving and tender hearted and He desires the same from us

In order for us to have a deep relationship with another person we must first seek their dislikes, aims, ambitions, etc.

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit *be* with you all. Amen.

Every one of us is thankful for the Grace and Love of God extended to us, and we talk about that often

- Let's talk about this word, communion (*koinonia*)
- **Fellowship – Partnership – Intimacy**

Communion Means Fellowship

- A friendly relationship, companionship, sharing together
- Intimate friends or comrades
- Regularly discuss intentions, challenges, goals, trials
- You heavily rely on their expertise and friendship
- Continually engaged with one another

This is how genuine trust is built!

We see this also in the life of Peter when Holy Spirit is showing him to go with strangers that would take him to a gentile to preach the Gospel – **Acts 19**

Being in close relationship with Holy Spirit means that there will be times when He tells you things you don't want to hear

Acts 20:22–23 (NKJV) Paul

²² And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.

The Holy Spirit wasn't rejoicing in this suffering but preparing Paul for what was ahead

- This passage has always amazed me
- As Paul discussed with Holy Spirit what lay ahead, He didn't say jail and suffering in one city
- He said in every city
- He gladly goes

And this...

Acts 8:26, 29 (NKJV)

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert.

²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

Here we see that Philip is so in tune with the Holy Spirit that he can discern between His voice, and the voice of an angel

Notice also that the angel is telling him to leave a place where a revival is breaking out and go to a desert where nothing is happening

- The man in the chariot was third in command over all of Ethiopia
- Because of his salvation, the gospel is advanced throughout the nation
- If Philip wouldn't have been sensitive to the Holy Spirit's voice he would have missed this great opportunity

Communion Means Partnership

Luke 5:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷ So they signaled to *their partners* in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

- Partners – same word, (*koinonia*)
- Partner, companion, fellow worker
- These men were business partners
- Good partnerships require both communication and action

1 Corinthians 3:9 (NKJV)

⁹ For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field; *you are* God's building.

- Weymouth Translation – “[We are] fellow workers *for* and with God.”

We have been given the opportunity to work for and with the creator of the heavens and earth

- We work in partnership with God

Acts 15:28 (NKJV)

²⁸ For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things:

- Both parties participated in the decision
- They were partners in the Kingdom

We see the same thing in the Old Testament

Abraham:

Genesis 18:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ And the LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing?”

Moses:

Exodus 32:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.”

Even after this, Moses was able to remind God what was best for both Him and His people

- Moses worked in close partnership with God

Communion Means Intimacy

2 Corinthians 13:14 (The Message)

¹⁴ The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you.

- Intimacy can only be developed through relationship
- Sharing deep thoughts, secrets, and desires of the heart

James 4:5 (NKJV)

⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”?

- He is jealous for you and longs for your time and attention
- Remember Holy Spirit is God
- Nothing is hidden from Him
- His knowledge, wisdom, and understanding is limitless
- And He longs to reveal Himself to you

John 16:14–15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore, I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.