

UNIT 3: Getting to Know God the Holy Spirit
 LESSON 11: "The Work of the Holy Spirit"
 DATE: November 22, 2015
 NEXT WEEK: "The Fruit & Gifts of the Spirit"
 (1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Galatians 5:16-26)

INTRODUCTION

The Holy Spirit has three primary roles in a Christian's life. He reveals our sin to us and points us to Christ. He purifies us and makes us more like Christ. And He empowers us as we embark on mission with the message of Christ. As Christians, we are called to follow the Spirit's leading, cooperate with His activity, and rely on His strength as we point others to Jesus.

THE HOLY SPIRIT (JOHN 16:8-11).

1. *He reveals man's* _____.

"The Spirit makes a depraved world aware of its sin. He reveals our need to believe in the crucified and risen Lord, who can remove our guilt and set us right with God." –R. Alan Culpepper

2. *He reveals God's* _____.

3. *He reveals God's* _____.

Application: When we walk in the Spirit and are open to His illumination of God's Word to us, we walk faithfully—in relationship with the one God. Discovering God's will is not meant to paralyze us with the fear of making a mistake. God intends us to apply what we've learned and to be guided by the Spirit as we make choices in line with His character as revealed in His Word.

THE HOLY SPIRIT (1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11).

1. *He* _____ *us from wrong doing.*

"By grace and in grace we scour every corner of our hearts, every square inch of our lives, and probe our minds to find anything that is not in submission to Jesus Christ, and we eradicate it altogether for the glory of God." –Matt Chandler

2. *He* _____ *us to right doing.*

Sanctification is a growing awareness of God's goodness, God's greatness, and God's desires. It is not about us trying to be something we are not. It is about being empowered by the Holy Spirit to embrace who we truly are.

Application: As Christians, we are called to respond to the Spirit's revelation and purification. We do not obey to perform or to earn more of His work. We obey in response. Just as the Holy Spirit changes what we see and believe is reality, He also enables us to live in this new reality.

THE HOLY SPIRIT (ACTS 1:4-8).

1. *He empowers us to* _____ *with God.*

"The Christian's life in all its aspects—intellectual and ethical, devotional and relational, upsurging in worship and outgoing in witness—is supernatural; only the Spirit can initiate and sustain it. So apart from him, not only will there be no lively believers and no lively congregations, there will be no believers and no congregations at all." –J. I. Packer

2. *He empowers us to* _____ *for God.*

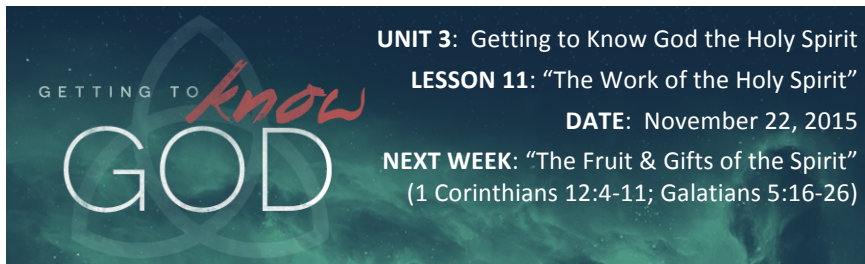
"There is no use in running before you are sent; there is no use in attempting to do God's work without God's power. A man working without this unction, a man working without this anointing, a man working without the Holy Ghost upon him, is losing time after all." –D. L. Moody

Application: The Holy Spirit was sent for a purpose and not for our amusement or satisfaction. He is our Comforter, our Guide, and our Counselor. Yet His presence is not there just to benefit us but to fulfill God's purpose. His power reveals our sin, purifies our hearts, and enables our engagement in His mission. He is the Comforter who calls us to give up comfort for His mission.

CONCLUSION

One way we can see the importance of the Spirit's work is to imagine our Christian walk without Him. Where would we be without the Holy Spirit? Who would bring to our attention our remaining sin? How would we understand the Bible? Who would make us look more like Christ?

Where would we get the boldness, passion, and power to proclaim the gospel? Without the Spirit, we are still blind, still in our sin, and powerless to fulfill God's mission. But with the Spirit, we can move forward with hope.



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