



# LIFE *in the* SPIRIT

## Lesson 1 | Introduction to the Holy Spirit

The study of the Holy Spirit is one of the most helpful yet most neglected studies. It's helpful because the Holy Spirit is the one who comes to live within us as believers. Yet this doctrine is difficult for many believers to understand and often gets ignored. In this series, we will overview what the Bible has to say about this important doctrine.

### John 14-16 – The Coming Comforter

As Jesus prepares to leave His disciples, He prepares them to realize He is leaving but the Spirit is coming to take His place. Although this long speech of Jesus involves more than just the Holy Spirit, at several points He gives important instructions on the Spirit's work.

#### The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ with Believers (John 14:15-17; 16:7)

The first thing Jesus wants to emphasize is that the Holy Spirit will come to be with believers once He has left. After telling His disciples that He would be leaving them He lets them know that the Spirit is coming as a "Comforter." This word is broad, and can include the idea of one who encourages, comforts, or represents another.

#### The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ God's Truth (John 14:25-26; 16:12-15; cf 1 John 2:27)

Not only does the Spirit come to live with believers, but part of His responsibility will be to illuminate their minds so that they understand God's truth. This means that we can be confident as we study that we are not alone, but that God Himself is explaining to us the truth of His Word.



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## Galatians 5 – Walking in the Spirit

### The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ Us

We are not saved by our own efforts, and we are also not sanctified by our own efforts. Paul here describes us as “walking in [by] the Spirit” (5:16, 25) and as being “led of [by] the Spirit” (5:18). Both images depict us as following the Holy Spirit as He directs us in our everyday lives.

### The Holy Spirit Produces \_\_\_\_\_ in Us

We often think of righteousness in terms of what we are not supposed to do. Yet while Paul does in fact give us a list of things we aren’t supposed to do, he also includes a list of things that should be the case if the Holy Spirit is in control of our lives. These end up being a fairly good litmus test if we ask the question, “Am I being led by the Spirit?”

## Romans 8 – Living by the Spirit

### The Spirit Sets Us Free from the Power of \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:1-13)

Paul makes an astonishing claim in Romans 8:2 – Jesus has set us free from the sin and death through the work of the Spirit. Whereas before we were powerless in our own strength to overcome our sinful tendencies, now with the help of the Holy Spirit we can live victoriously. But this is not automatic, we are told that we must choose to “live according to the Spirit” if we want to have life, and that if we “live according to the flesh” that will bring death.

### The Spirit Helps Us in our \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:14-30)

Paul transitions quickly at the end of this section to talk about the difference the Holy Spirit will make in our sufferings. When we go through persecution, tragedy, and great pain we are tempted to lose hope. We can begin to wonder if God is really for us, if He really cares about what we are going through. Here in Scripture God affirms that He does care, and practically He shows that by sending the Spirit who affirms to us that we are God’s children and who intercedes for us before the Father.

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