

## The Promise of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-14 & related Scriptures)

- **What We Teach:** We believe that the Holy Spirit is God. He convicts people of sin, activates our salvation, indwells our lives and unites us with His church. He empowers us for righteous and obedient living and progressively transforms our character and lifestyle as we yield to His power. He equips us with spiritual gifts to serve the church and the world. Therefore, without the ministry of the Holy Spirit, we are unable to live a life pleasing to God.
- The Holy Spirit is a promised gift from God (Acts 2:38-39) that is the key to everything in your Christian life. If you can learn how to allow Him to lead and fill you, you will maximally enjoy and experienced life as God intended.
- Without the Holy Spirit, there is no salvation (Jn. 3:3-8; 6:63); Bible (2 Pet. 1:21); bodily resurrection (Rom. 8:11); spiritual life (2 Cor. 3:6); virgin birth (Matt. 1:18); freedom (2 Cor. 3:17); hope (Rom. 15:13); quality leadership (A. 20:28); victory over sin (Gal. 5:16); spiritual growth (Gal. 3:2-3)
- Ephesians 1:13-14 highlights the “seal” (sign of authority, security, authenticity, completed transation) and “pledge” (down payment & engagement ring) of the Holy Spirit of promise
  - The struggle many have in experiencing the fulness and power of the Holy Spirit is related to a misunderstanding and misappropriation of His ministry.
  - The devil loves keeping believers unfilled and unused by the Holy Spirit so they experience a mediocre life.
- There are 324 references to the Holy Spirit in Scripture (79 in OT; 245 in the NT) and you can organize the teaching about the Holy Spirit into four categories (Personhood; Deity; Ministry; Relationship)
  - **He’s a real Person** (names; pronouns; identification with the Father & Son; intellect; emotion; will; speaks; intercedes; calls; oversees; can be grieved; liked to, insulted)
  - **He is God** as seen being the third member of the Tri-unity (Mt. 28:19); proof is seen in His names (God-A. 5:3-5; Lord-2 Cor. 3:18); attributes (truth-1 Jn. 5:6; Holy-Lk 1:11:13; Life-giver-Rom 8:2; wisdom-Isa. 40:13; eternal-Heb. 9:14; Omnipresent-Ps. 139:7-10; Omniscient-1 Cor. 2:10); His works (creator-Job 33:4; inspires-2 Pet 1:21; saves-1 Cor. 6:11; regenerates-Jn 3:5-8; resurrects-Rm 8:11; reveals-1 C. 2:8-11); His equality (1 Cor. 12:4-6; 2 Cor. 13:14)
  - **His Ministry** (39 expressions) involves an executive side (what He wills and does) and an enabling side (how He empowers us)
  - **Our relationship to Him** is driven by eight commands (in the notes below).

- There are two aspects to the promise of the Holy Spirit who is our Chief C.E.O. (Chief Executive & Chief Enabler):

## 1. **The Holy Spirit is our Chief Executive** (Rom. 8:2 & other various Scriptures)

- We see the Holy Spirit's authority in Rom. 8:2: the higher "law of the Spirit in Christ Jesus has set you free from the (lower law) law of sin and death". The Holy Spirit overrules sin and supersedes it in our lives as we allow Him to work.
  - **He immerses us** into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13 – baptism of the Holy Spirit) at the moment of belief (Jn 7:37-39; Acts 11:17) and it results in new life (Jn. 7:37-39); a new identity (Rom. 6:1-5) and a new unity ("one body" in 1 Cor. 12:13)
  - **He indwells us** (1 Cor. 6:19; Rom. 8:9) personally (Jn 14:16-17 and confirms our sonship-Rom. 8:16), permanently (Eph. 1:13-14-"sealed"; Jn. 14:16- "in you forever"), powerfully (Eph. 3:16)
  - **He instructs us** (1 Cor. 2:10-16) as the "Spirit of truth" (Jn 14:17; 15:26; 16:13; 1 Jn. 5:7) who is our resident Bible teacher guiding us into all truth (Jn. 16:13). He calls us to "listen" (Rev. 2-3) as people who have received "the anointing" (1 Jn 2:20, 27)
  - **He involves us** through eight commands
    - Do not grieve Him with your sin (Eph. 4:30-32).
    - Do not quench Him with an unwilling, unyielding spirit (1 Thess. 5:19).
    - Pray in the Spirit by ordering our prayers according to His will (Jude 20; Eph. 6:18).
    - Be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)
    - Walk by the Spirit (Gal. 5:16-25) Take up the sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)
    - Use your spiritual ministry gifts to serve and bless the body of Christ (1 Pet. 4:10-11; 1 Cor. 12:7)
    - Be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3).

## 2. **The Holy Spirit is our Chief Enabler** (Various Scriptures)

- The life-giving Spirit (Jn 6:63) energizes and empowers us to do five basic things:
  - To **witness courageously** (Acts 1:8; 4:31)
  - To **worship correctly** (Phil. 3:3). The Spirit exalts Jesus Christ (Jn 15:26). He guides our access to God (Eph. 2:18) and intercedes for us and helps us pray (Rom. 8:26-27)
  - To **work competently** in ministry (1 Cor. 12:7; 1 Pet. 4:11-12; Eph. 4:16)
  - To **win confidently** against sin (Rom. 8:2). He's our sanctifier (Rom. 15:16), personal therapist ("Helper": Jn. 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7)
  - To **walk consistently** by the Spirit (Gal. 5:16-25)