

Lesson 4

HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF A BELIEVER



Jesus promised that he would send the Holy Spirit to live within those who believed in him, and to live within his Body, the Church. In this lesson we will focus on the way the Spirit works in our lives as individuals – in your life and mine!

1. CONVICTING

Before a person becomes a Christian, the Holy Spirit begins working in their life to draw them to Jesus and reveal to them that they need God.

What does the Holy Spirit convict men and women about in John 16:8 _____

2. SAVING

Sometimes God has been preparing a person to come to know him for a long time, but as soon as he repents of his sin and puts his faith in Jesus, a wonderful work begins in his life. This work is done by the Holy Spirit. God breathes life into that person and they are born again.

(a.) To be born again

How can a person enter the Kingdom of God? John 3:5 _____

What does it mean to be born of the Spirit? John 3:6-8 _____

What happens when a person is born again? 2 Corinthians 5:17 _____

Is it possible for a person to be a true Christian and not have the Holy Spirit? Romans 8:9, 14 _____

How do we know if the Holy Spirit lives in us? Romans 8:16 _____

What assurance do we have when the Holy Spirit lives in us? Ephesians 1:13-14 _____

(b.) To become part of the Body of Christ

As soon as we are born again we are baptised into the Body of Christ and united with all those who belong to him.

Who can belong to the Body of Christ according to 1 Corinthians 12:13? _____

Discuss What does this mean to us?

3. SANCTIFYING

Now that a person has been born again by the Spirit, God begins his work within that person, by his Spirit.

(a.) The Holy Spirit helps us in our Christian life

How does the Holy Spirit help us according to the following verses?

John 16:13 _____

Romans 8:26-27 _____

John 4:24 _____

(b.) The Holy Spirit makes us like Jesus

What does the Holy Spirit do IN our lives according to 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 _____

Discuss What sort of things do we need to be set free from, so we can experience the freedom it speaks about in 2 Corinthians 3:17?

As we allow the Holy Spirit to work in us we are set free from fear, doubts, hurts, anger, and we become more like Jesus. This is God's desire for each one of his children. The Bible calls it 'sanctification', which literally means 'to be made holy'. As soon as we repent we are forgiven and made holy in God's sight, because of what Jesus has done for us. However now we are to live a holy life. This is only possible with the help of the Holy Spirit.

(c.) The Holy Spirit produces fruit in our lives

When the Spirit controls our life, what will the evidence be? John 15:8 _____

What is the fruit that will be produced by the Spirit? Galatians 5:22 _____

Discuss How is it possible to live by the Spirit as it says in Galatians 5:16?

4. EMPOWERING

Not only does the Holy Spirit produce the character of Jesus in our lives, but he can empower us to be his witnesses.

How does the Holy Spirit equip us to be witnesses? Acts 1:8 _____

When the disciples were baptised in the Holy Spirit they also received spiritual gifts.

What are the spiritual gifts according to 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 _____

What is the purpose of these gifts? 1 Corinthians 12:7 _____

These gifts are not natural talents, but spiritual, supernatural gifts, given by God to believers when they receive the power of the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul encourages us to ask God for these gifts. See 1 Corinthians 14:1

Conclusion

Isn't it wonderful that God sent the Holy Spirit to live within you and me? He has come to help us know God and his Word more, and also to help us pray and worship God in a way that pleases him. Not only that, but he is working in our lives to make us holy like Jesus, and to give us power to be his witnesses. Without the Holy Spirit we can't live the Christian life, so let's ask for his help!