

Title: Holy Spirit Series Introduction

Pneumatological Statement (AKA: A statement regarding the study of the Holy Spirit):

- As part of the eternally existing Godhead, the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ.
- He convicts the world of its sin; He regenerates sinners; and we are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs into the family of God, by the Holy Spirit.
- He indwells, illuminates, guides, equips, and empowers believers to follow Christ, to live on mission in the world, and to serve the body of Christ.
- When we experience "The Presence of God" we are experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit.
- When we experience super natural power, calling, anointing, gifts, or leading, it is the work of the Holy Spirit.
- Without the Holy Spirit, there is no Godhead, no Church, and no fruitful or abundant life.
- Without the Holy Spirit moving we **do not know the love of God**. The love of God has been poured abroad in our hearts (manifestly, experientially) BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. (Rom. 5:5)
- Without the Holy Spirit there is not adoption (we are not sons and daughters of God with His work). It the HOLY SPIRIT that has brought about our adoption (Rom. 8:15)
- Apart from the work of the Spirit there is no salvation. Being born again - our passing from spiritual death to life, happens as a result of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
- **Rom. 8:11:** The Spirit of the God who rose Christ from the dead is now living in us bringing our mortal bodies from death into life.

Everything we know and experience in relationship to God, happens in part because of the work of the Holy Spirit.

Purpose of the Holy Spirit Series:

- To better understand and acknowledge the person and work of the Holy Spirit in our lives
- To become more dependent on the Holy Spirit in our lives
- To be more attuned and obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit in our lives
- To experience more of His presence in our lives
- And as a result of the above, that we will bear more fruit of the Spirit; begin to see Jesus more clearly; and begin to see the Father more glorified in our lives than ever before
- **From the beginning God has been after intimacy — relationship with humanity**
- This is the work of the Holy Spirit in us — to know God, and to make Him known.

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah... and this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” (Jer. 31:31-34)**

- **For us to intimately know Him, has always been God’s goal.**

“The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? **In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.” (1 Cor. 2:10-11)**

- **It is BY THE Holy Spirit that we understand and know God. We do not know God except by the Holy Spirit.**
 - The Holy Spirit reveals to us who God is and brings us into intimate relationship with Him. You cannot know God aside from the Holy Spirit. And to know the Holy Spirit is to know God. Just like to know Jesus is to know God.
 - The Holy Spirit ventures deeper into God’s heart and into our hearts where we are unable to explore ourselves.

There is no knowing God without the Holy Spirit.

Likewise there is no MAKING GOD KNOWN without the Holy Spirit.

I wrote the first narrative, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day he was taken up...

After he had suffered, he also presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While he was with them, he commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father’s promise. “Which,” he said, “you have heard me speak about; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days. So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **(Acts 1:1-8)**

Apart from the Holy Spirit, there is no knowing God; and apart from the Holy Spirit there is no making God known.

Everything that we were created and saved for is dependent on the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

“God has yet more of himself to give to those who seek him. Ask him. And keep on asking until he comes or calls.” - **John Piper**

- I don't care if you've never done any of that. It doesn't change who God is! **God is still waiting on high to work in your life.**
- **Is. 30:18: “God LONGS to be gracious to you.”**
- God is waiting on high to do His abundantly good work in your life.
- There is so much more than God has for us than most of us are willing to partake in.
- **If you're not moving forward, then YOU ARE moving backwards.**
- You should be experiencing **more victory over the sin** that used to overwhelm you.
- You should be **more secure** in your **identity** in Christ.
- You should be **more aware** of your **inadequacy**.
- You should be **more in awe** of God's **love**.
- You should be experiencing **more freedom**.
- And your spouse and your family and friends should be able to identify the **more growth** and the evolution **toward Christ**.
- The power of God should be flowing through and working through your life to be **more on mission** than ever before.
- We should not be able to explain everything happening in our lives with a natural, human explanation.

“We are not all we were made to be when everything in our lives and churches can be explained apart from the work and presence of the Spirit of God.” - **Francis Chan**
(**“Forgotten God”**)

The reason the Father sent the Spirit is because the Spirit coming meant more of Him in our lives.

"Is it possible to get enough or even too much God? Is there a point when a person can be satisfied with the amount of intimacy, knowledge, and power of God he or she experiences? I

don't think so... I can't say exactly what will happen when you admit that you can never fully know or experience enough of the Holy Spirit yet choose to seek Him regardless. I know only that when you surrender fully to the Spirit, Christ will be magnified, not you (John 16:14). And perhaps the core issue is really about our holding back from giving ourselves to God, rather than our getting "too much" of Him. Perhaps when a person says, "I'd just like a little God, thank you very much," she or he is really saying, "I'd rather not give the parts of my life that I really care about over to God, so I'll just hold on to this, that, oh, and that, too...." It doesn't work that way. When I read Scripture, I see the truth and necessity of a life wholly surrendered to and dependent upon the Holy Spirit." - **Francis Chan ("Forgotten God")**

This is what God invites us into.

Come to the banqueting table and taste and see that the Lord is Good. Jesus said: "**If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. . . .**" Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive" (**John 7:37, 39**).

- Thirst for him. During this second set, drink of him.
- **"Drink from the river of [his] delights" (Psalm 36:8).**
- As a deer longs for streams of water let your soul long for God today
- Psalm 63 says: **"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Psalm 63:1)**
- **Don't WAIT to SEE his fullness. Seek him NOW**
- **"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:9-13)**

What do you desire as it pertains to God and His Spirit?

- To know more experiential knowledge of God that only comes through the work of the Holy Spirit?
- More power, leading, or awareness of the Holy Spirit and His work in your life?
- Misunderstandings about the Holy Spirit that need to be corrected?
- Do you have a lot of zeal for the work of the Holy Spirit and/or experience with the Holy Spirit, but lack Biblical underpinning as it pertains to the person and work of the Holy Spirit?

What are you afraid of when it comes to the Holy Spirit?

- **Are you afraid of losing something?**
 - Control?
 - Comfort?
 - Reputation?