

WIND & FIRE -- WEEK 6: THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Getting to Know You:

1. Who is someone that you like to work with (at work, serving alongside at church, doing a DIY project with, ...)? Why do you like working with that person? How are they helpful?

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1fPMt9Pc08>

J.D. Greear Interview: The Holy Spirit Inside of You is Better Than Jesus Beside You (4:06)

2. Would you rather have Jesus beside you or the Holy Spirit inside you? How do we relate to God within us?
3. J.D. Greear says sometimes we see the Holy Spirit like we see the pituitary gland (you need it in you, but you don't relate to it). What does he say the role of God's presence in our life is?

"The thought of walking, sitting, and eating with Jesus brings Christians great joy, and His physical absence leaves us longing to be in His presence. As wonderful as this thought and longing is, we should not neglect the truth that Jesus has sent another helper. The Holy Spirit, the comforter, teacher, advocate, and homemaker, dwells within God's people and illuminates their hearts with the fullness of Christ. We see Christ clearly now because His companion, His Spirit, resides within us." Sinclair Ferguson, *Who is the Holy Spirit?*

Read John 14:16-17 "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—**17** the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. **18** I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

Read John 16:5-15 "...**5** but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' **6** Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. **7** But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. **8** When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: **9** about sin, because people do not believe in me; **10** about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; **11** and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. **12** "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. **13** But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. **14** He will glorify me because it is from

me that he will receive what he will make known to you. **15** All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

4. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit's character and job description from these passages?
5. The disciples were discouraged, because Jesus was saying that He was leaving them. Jesus said in John 16:7, "...it is for your good that I am going away..." How could it be good that Jesus was leaving?
6. What promise are we given? Where do we find hope here?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “**19** Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; **20** you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.”

7. Considering that the Holy Spirit is always with us, what positive changes should that make in our lives?
8. Considering that the Holy Spirit is always with us, are there any attitudes or behaviors that we might need to consider changing in our own lives to be made more like Him?
9. We often talk about the grace of God. How often do we consider the cost God made to purchase our free grace?
10. How do we submit to the Lordship of Jesus according to this passage?

Wrapping it Up:

As we finish this series, what is something new that you learned about the Holy Spirit? Has your understanding of who He is and what He does changed?

Living It Out: This week, if possible, try to do one of the following.

- Thank God for a positive change He has made in your life.

- Confess something that you need to change in your life. Ask for the Holy Spirit to help make changes in your life.
- Read and meditate on this quote...“To put it simply: the Holy Spirit bothers us. Because he moves us, he makes us walk, he pushes the Church to go forward. And we are like Peter at the Transfiguration: 'Ah, how wonderful it is to be here like this, all together!' ... But don't bother us. We want the Holy Spirit to doze off ... we want to domesticate the Holy Spirit. And that's no good. because he is God, he is that wind which comes and goes and you don't know where. He is the power of God, he is the one who gives us consolation and strength to move forward. But: to move forward! And this bothers us. It's so much nicer to be comfortable.”

— **Pope Francis, Encountering Truth: Meeting God in the Everyday**