**Person & Work of the Holy Spirit Lecture Series**

**Topics & Content:**

**Week 1: Tuesday May 10, 2018**

**Session 1 A:**

*Intro & Overview:*

* The issue: “Seeing the unseen.”

The Word of God bridges us over into the Spirit realm.

* Our goal: “To develop a deeper more fulfilling & fruitful relationship with the Holy Spirit.”
* Foundation: as always, submit our thoughts and experiences to the Word.
* To this end, we **overview** the topics of:

-The Person and work of the Holy Spirit.

-The symbols of the Holy Spirit: “Water, Wind, Fire…”

-The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.

-The Holy Spirit in Jesus’ Ministry.

-The Holy Spirit in the disciples’ ministry.

‘Purposes of Pentecost’.

-The Holy Spirit in church history.

-The ‘baptism’ of the Holy Spirit.

-The sound of His voice – being led the Holy Spirit.

(Fruitful intimacy).

-The Manifestation Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

(Context of the Fruit of the Spirit / Motivational Gifts / Equipping Gifts).

-The Holy Spirit empowers us to walk in love.

(Charisma & Character)

**Rainbow image:** The Holy Spirit is bigger and better than you may have ever imagined.

**The Person of the Holy Spirit**

# Intro

# Religiosity keeps God distant: in place and time.

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# Distance & delay robs many of God’s best.

# John 5:39

***39****You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*

* Any encounter / study should strengthen our personal relationship with the Lord.
  + (Enlarged hearts vs swollen heads).

# The Holy Spirit is up close and personal.

# Jesus (& the Father) personal gift to the believer on His departure.

# John 14:15

*“If you love Me, keep My commandments.****16****And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that* ***He*** *may abide with you forever—****17****the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees* ***Him*** *nor knows Him; but you know* ***Him****, for He dwells with you and will be* ***in*** *you.****18****I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*

# We have a ‘divine advantage’: how so?

# John 16:7

***7****Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your* ***advantage*** *that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.*

# Jesus was, and still is, the master strategist: (as Head of the church).

# Overview of Holy Spirit’s Work: *“to us, in us, through us”*

# Comes to us to bring us to Christ saving grace:

# John 16:7-11

***7****Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.****8****And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:****9****of sin, because they do not believe in Me;****10****of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;****11****of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

* + Conviction brings illumination of our need and is therefore not condemnation which points to a judgment associated with guilt.
  + Jesus is the ultimate standard of righteousness for the whole human race.

# Works in us to produce fruitful maturity & Christlikeness:

Begins the process with a birth.

**Titus 3:5**

*through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,*

1. Helps us fulfil life’s purposes along the way: “helper”

(so we have a part to play).

**John 14:26**

***26****But the* ***Helper****, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*

1. Guides us in the right direction as we live move and have our being.

**John 16:12-14**

*“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.****13****However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.****14****He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

# Works through us to further God’s purposes:

# Acts 1:8

*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

**Conclusion to Session 1 A:**

Let us commit to experience more of His operation in our lives.

(Experiential **vs** mere ‘head knowledge)

* In the next session we look into Holy Spirit as a distinct person of the one true God.

**Research & Notes:**

*Some Biblical definitions:*

Derived from both Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament).

Spirit: breath or wind - (not material or physical)

**‘Ruach’ (Hebrew) –**

The Old Testament. The Hebrew word for "spirit" is ruah [[;jWr](http://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/hebrew/nas/ruwach-aramaic.html)]. It appears 389 times in the Old Testament. Its varied use almost defies analysis, but some emphases are discernible. It is used more often of God (136 times) than of persons or animals (129 times).

Its basic meaning is wind (113 times)

Breath is also a basic meaning of this term. It is the Lord who gives breath to people ( [Isa 42:5](http://www.biblestudytools.com/isaiah/42-5.html) ) and to lifeless bodies ( [in 1:1](https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/spirit/default.aspx?reference=in+1:1) [Ezek 37:9-10](https://www.biblestudytools.com/passage/?q=Ezekiel+37:9-10209720" \t "_blank)

**‘Pneuma’ (Greek) –** (Eg. pneumatic tyres- air filled).

*pneúma* – properly, *spirit* (*Spirit*), *wind*, or *breath*. The most frequent meaning (translation) of [4151](https://biblehub.com/greek/4151.htm) (*pneúma*) in the NT is "*spirit*" ("*Spirit*"). Only the context however determines which sense(s) is meant.

*We cannot see the wind itself, but we can see the effects of the wind: eg. leaves blowing “in the wind”.*

**Person & Work of Holy Spirit - Session 1 B:**

*(Focus on His person & relationship to the trinity)*

* Where did God come from? – His ‘eternality’.
* Going back as far as you can.
* (Show video clip: where did God come from?)
* The Holy Spirit is supreme (God):
* There at the creation: **Genesis 1:2**
* He is all knowing and everywhere present: **Psalm 139:7-10**
* He is eternal: **Hebrews 9:14**
* He is called God (supreme): **Acts 5:3-4**
* He has foreknowledge**: Acts 1:16**

**The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity / Triunity of God.**

* The trinity is not 3 different ‘gods’.

**Deuteronomy 6:4**

***4****“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”*

* In the beginning when man was created, God’s plurality was indicated.

**Genesis 1:26**

***26****Then God said, “Let* ***Us*** *make man in* ***Our*** *image, according to* ***Our*** *likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”****27****So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

* The trinity’s 3 persons are distinct from each other, yet exist & work or cooperate ‘in concert’ with each other:
  + At Jesus conception: **Luke 1:35**
  + At Jesus water baptism: **Matthew 3:16-17**
  + Empowerment of Jesus for service: **Acts 10:38**
  + At the great commissioning of the disciples / church: **Matthew 28:19**
  + Jesus Himself makes a distinction: **John 14:16,26**
* The very ‘name’: “Lord Jesus Christ” shows the trinity.
* Lord – Father God
* Jesus – Son
* Christ – Holy Spirit (anointed one)
* Attempts to fully explain the trinity by analogy have limitations:
  + (egg / water / the sun).

**The Personhood of the Holy Spirit: “when He…”**

* He is **not** an inanimate and thus unrelatable ‘force’ (like gravity).
* Neither is merely a distant ‘influence’: vague & impersonal.
* He is a person: ’Him’.
  + Can talk to us and be talked to: **John 16:13 / Acts 10:19-21**
  + He ‘feels’ emotion like a person: **Ephesians 4:30**
  + Can will things and make choices as a person: **1 Corinthians 12:11**
  + Opens up a relationship (communion) with Him: **2 Corinthians 13:14**
* The Holy Spirit has names that show His deity: (deity means God, supreme, divine).
  + ‘Eternal Spirit’: **Hebrews 9:14**
  + ‘Spirit of the Living God’: **2 Corinthians 3:3**
  + Spirit of Truth’: **John 14:17**

**Conclusion to this session 1 B:**

* Creeds have attempted to formalize the belief of the trinity:

<http://www.tsm.edu/the_three_creeds/>

* **Other References:**

What the Bible teaches about the trinity: www.gotquestions.org

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Trinity-Bible.html>

From a Philosophical Point of View:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0G2S5ziDcO0>

Ravi Zacharias:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=788hMI1Lc-s>

The trinity explained in 3 mnutes!?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHF-y84rgIM>

3 - minute theology:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0HMryr1ZlxQ>

The analogy of sun, light and heat:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KpxWzuP-91I>

Explaining the trinity God:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a81h_Lu2t58>