

Bible Study Guide

To explore the word of God for proper application.

Holy Spirit – His Personality

Week 1

Meet the Holy Spirit



Objective: To understand the person of the Holy Spirit and apply this understanding to our daily relationship with Him

TEXT: JOHN 14:15-18

Introduction

There are several schools of thoughts about the understanding of the Holy Spirit. Some say He is an effective force of God; some say He is power; some say He is a feeling and some do not believe He exist. For the next few weeks, we will be studying about Holy Spirit and his personality.

Task: *From your own understanding, who is the Holy Spirit*

The Holy Spirit is not an effective force, and He is more than just power. Calling the Holy spirit power is a lack of proper understanding of His personality.

Acts 1:8 – But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth

From the above scripture, the Holy Spirit was separate from power, He qualifies for the power.

Who is Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a person, He is the third person in Trinity. The trinity consist of God the Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit and they are all one

Evidence that the Holy Spirit is a person:

Three characteristics of a person:

I. Will

II. Emotion

III. Intellect.

Task: *Can you discuss if the Holy Spirit possesses these characteristics?*

Will:

According to the scripture, the Holy Spirit relates with us with all these characteristics.

Will: The Holy Spirit has a will. From our understanding of Trinity, the Godhead could be different even in will, but they agree as one. God the Father has His will, the Son has His will and the Holy Spirit has His will.

Matthew 26:39

And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Jesus prayed in the scripture above, surrendering His will to that of the Father, salvation in the way it played out was the Father's will, and that Jesus would be forsaken of the Father when He bares the sins of the world.

1 Cor 12: 8-11

8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

The gift of the spirit is distributed according to the will of the Holy Spirit, so He has a will.

Emotion:

The Holy Spirit has an emotion, we have several references to the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Indicating that He loves to fellowship with us always. – Phil 2:1; 2 Cor 13:14;

Love of the Holy Spirit. He helps us to love and understand the love of the Father – Rom 15:30; Eph 3:16-19

Comfort – He is the comforter, the promise of the Father at the request of Jesus. – John 14:15-16.

Grieve, the Holy Spirit could be grieved by our wrong attitude towards one another – Eph 4:3-31.

Intellect:

Jesus spoke extensively about the intellectual capacity of the Holy Spirit, He said the Holy Spirit would teach us all things, and remind us all that He (Jesus) had taught us.– John 14:26; 1John 2:20.

A few of these attributes that forms the personality of the Holy Spirit will be discussed further as we continue in this series.

Conclusion

The Holy Spirit is a person, with a responsibility to teach us and keep us till Christ comes. We need to learn to consciously relate with the Him as a person who is always with us.

Holy Spirit – His Personality

Week 2

Misconceptions about Holy Spirit

Objective: To understand the person of the Holy Spirit and apply this understanding to our daily relationship with Him

Introduction

In studying what the bible says about Holy spirit, the fundamental thing to know is His personality. God revealed himself as one God in three persons. God the Father , God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is spoken as being 'third' does not in any sense mean inferiority, weakness or the least in trinity. He is spoken of as being 'Third' in order of divine performance – His manifestation and work

Misconceptions about Holy Spirit

There several misconceptions that some people have about Holy Spirit

- 1.The word 'Spirit' is the Greek, "pneuma" meaning 'breath ' or 'wind', which implies the concept of an unseen force. (John 3:5-8)
- 2.The Holy Spirit is symbolised as many impersonal objects such as wind, water, fire or oil, seemingly negating the fact that He is a person.
- 3.The Holy Spirit's work seems mystical, secret and invisible.
- 4.The Holy Spirit as a title is less relatable than "Father" and "Son". However, the Spirit is a person, though invisible and incorporeal.

Task: *what are the wrong perceptions people have about Holy spirit*

- A mystical force
- An impersonal influence or power

Who is Holy Spirit

- 1.He is a divine person, a being with a mind, emotions and a will.
- 2.The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Trinity. God the Father and God the Son
- 3.He shares the same pedestal and shares the same attributes with the Father and the Son
- 4.He is the expression of the power of God Micah 3:8, Luke 1:35
- 5.He is the comforter John 14:16, 26; 15:26
- 6.He is a counselor
- 7.He is omnipresence Psalm139:7-8
- 8.He is omniscience 1 Cor2:10-11

Task: *Share with us experience or events that reveals Holy Spirit to be as listed above*

Conclusion

The Holy Spirit is a person and He is to dwell with us just as Jesus dwelt with the disciples. Understanding His personality helps us to relate better with Him.

Holy Spirit – His Personality

Week 3

Importance of the study of personality of the Holy Spirit

Objective: To understand the person of the Holy Spirit and apply this understanding to our daily relationship with Him

Introduction

In studying what the bible says about Holy spirit, the fundamental thing to know is His personality. God revealed himself as one God in three persons. God the Father , God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

The importance of studying His personality will be our focus today.

The personality of the Holy Spirit

The personality of Holy Spirit is closely related to human but it is important to draw a distinction between them. Holy spirit is a divine being but does not have physical body, flesh and bones like you and I.

The Holy Spirit has no body or shape but personality is not in any way connected with possessing some physical form. Personality is based upon intelligence, feeling and will.

Holy Spirit performs as a person

- He hears John16:13
- He speaks Acts 10:19-20
- He intercedes for us Romans 8:26
- He teaches Luke 12:12, John14:26
- He guides John16:13
- He comforts Acts9:31
- He witnesses Romans 8:16
- He calls to ministryActs 13:2

Holy Spirit should be treated as a person

- The Holy Spirit can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30)
- He can be lied to Acts 5:3
- He can be resisted Acts7:51

Task: Share with us your unforgettable moments with Holy Spirit

Importance of the study of personality of the Holy Spirit

Some nuggets about the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit is the promise of the Father to you and I. In Acts 1: 5 we read that Jesus spoke of Holy Spirit as the promise to the church and in Acts 2: 33-38 comes the fulfilment of the promise

- Holy Spirit is a divine personality not a force. I believed that we agreed and we have the full understanding of the personality of Holy Spirit and how we will begin to relate with him as a person and not a force. John 14:16
- The infilling of Holy Spirit is not for sinners but for the believers. You can not live in sin and be filled with Holy Ghost at the same. John 14:16, Matt 6:24-26. You must be born again before you can be filled with Holy Spirit

Conclusion

The study of the personality of the Holy Spirit is important for us to be able to worship aright, serve acceptably and depend more on Him.

Knowing the personality of the Holy Spirit we have to live daily with the consciousness of His existence and His consistent presence around us. Let us worship aright by the help of the Holy Spirit, serve acceptably and depend more on Him.

Holy Spirit – His Personality

Week 4

Appearances of Holy Spirit

Objective: To understand the person of the Holy Spirit and apply this understanding to our daily relationship with Him

Introduction

Holy Spirit appears in different ways and we misinterpret it to be his personality but it is important for us to discuss the various he appears and why he chose those elements and symbols by looking through the attributes of those symbols.

Wind

We read about the coming of Holy spirit like a rushing mighty wind in Acts 2:1-4. When the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. Wind as a scriptural symbol signifies life and activity. It sets forth the power, invisibility, immaterial nature, and the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit's work in regeneration is like the wind as seen in John 3:8. In Ezekiel 37:6 Ezekiel prophesied to the dry bones in the valley of death and God breath the breath of life to the mass deaths and became a mighty army. Holy Spirit brings spiritual life amidst humanity's spiritual death caused by sin and ruptured relationship with God.

Fire

• Holy Spirit as a symbol of fire depicts the presence of God has been in appearance both in old testament and new testament.
The fire of the Holy Spirit cleanses Isaiah 6:1-4
The fire of the Holy Spirit empowers the Christian for exploits Acts 10:38, Acts 2:1-3
The fire of the Holy Spirit consumes all the enemies of God Psalm 97:3

Task: *Share with us any other way you have seen the Holy Spirit appear*

Appearances of Holy Spirit

Dove

Holy Spirit manifested himself as a dove during the baptism of Jesus Christ at the river of Jordan. Matt3:16, John 1:30-34. To mention few, let us look at the attributes of a dove.

1. A dove is a gentle creature with a soft cooing and can be easily shooed away.
2. Dove symbolizes peace. Psalm 55:6
3. It symbolizes Purity. Song of Solomon 6:9
4. Dove is harmless. Matthew 10:16

For example Holy Spirit is a gentle spirit with a calm voice, he is not aggressive and He will not force his will on us. He will not remain for so long if his ministry is rejected. Eph4:30.

Water

Holy spirit is symbolized as water, Jesus was admonishing his followers that though John baptized with water but they will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. John1:5

Furthermore, in John7:37-39 Jesus cried out to the everyone that is thirsty should come to him and drink, he was speaking of the Holy Spirit.

Vs 38 says out off his belly shall flow rivers of the living water.

Let us discuss about the attributes of water:

1. Water performs the function of washing and cleansing
2. It refreshes our body and brings vitality
3. Water quenches our thirst
4. Water gives life

Holy Spirit cleanses and purify our soul, quenches our spiritual thirst and refreshes our being.

The Holy Spirit is liken to water that brings life to our souls and cleanses our dry and thirsty world.

Task: *Let us take these attributes one after the other and relates the to the nature and the works of Holy Spirit.*

Conclusion

The Holy Spirit is not water, fire or any element. He is a person who manifest Himself in various ways for various reasons.

Holy Spirit – His Personality

Week 5

The teacher

Objective: To understand the person of the Holy Spirit as a teacher and apply this understanding to our daily relationship with Him

Introduction

The Holy Spirit is a teacher who desires to lead us into a deeper understanding of Scripture and to a joyful appreciation of the Word. He brings the truth of God's Word to our attention and gives us fresh insights into those truths so that our lives can be characterized by faithfulness and a loving obedience to God's will. John 14:26.

Holy Spirit as a teacher, a guide, and a transformative force in our lives. Also, Holy Spirit has been depicted as a dove, tongues of fire, and even wind – symbolizing its multifaceted nature and powerful presence.

The Holy Spirit's Promise as a Teacher:

- In John 14:26, Jesus promises: "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 that I have said to you."
- This verse highlights the Holy Spirit's role as a constant companion, reminding us of Christ's teachings and guiding us towards deeper understanding.

Task: *What are the modes of the Holy Spirit's teachings?*

Modes of the Holy Spirit's Teaching:

- Illumination: The Holy Spirit sheds light on scripture, revealing hidden meanings and making complex concepts clearer.
- Conviction: He convicts us of our sin and shortcomings, prompting us towards repentance and transformation.
- Wisdom and discernment: He guides us in making wise choices, helping us navigate life's challenges with clarity and confidence.
- Gifts of the Spirit: The Holy Spirit bestows various gifts, such as prophecy, healing, and speaking in tongues, empowering us to serve others and build up the church.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit:

- As we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit's teaching, we cultivate the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

These fruits become visible in our words, actions, and relationships, transforming us into agents of God's love in the world.

Task: *How do we respond to the Holy Spirit?*

Responding to the Holy Spirit's Teaching:

- Prayer and receptivity: Regularly inviting the Holy Spirit into our lives through prayer creates an open heart receptive to his guidance.
- Studying scripture: Immersing ourselves in God's word provides fertile ground for the Holy Spirit to plant his seeds of wisdom and understanding.
- Fellowship and community: Sharing our experiences and seeking guidance within a supportive community strengthens our faith and amplifies the Holy Spirit's work.

Call to Action

- *Let us commit to actively engaging with the Holy Spirit as our teacher. Let us open our hearts and minds to his guidance, allowing him to shape us into the people God desires us to be*

Conclusion

- *The Holy Spirit's teaching is not a one-time event but an ongoing journey of transformation. By embracing his guidance, we can deepen our understanding of God, grow in our faith, and become instruments of his love and grace in the world.*

Holy Spirit – His Personality

Week 6

The comforter

Objective: To understand the person of the Holy Spirit as a comforter and apply this understanding to our daily relationship with Him

Text: *John 14:16-17*

"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Introduction:

The Holy Spirit, often referred to as the Comforter or Helper, He is the divine presence promised by Jesus Christ to be with believers. In this Bible study, we will explore the role of the Holy Spirit as a Comforter/Companion in the lives of Christians.

Over the past few weeks we have been studying the personality of Holy spirit, we have discussed about

- The personality of the Holy Spirit
- Misconceptions of Holy Spirit
- importance of studying the personality of the Holy Spirit
- Appearance of Holy Spirit
- The teacher

This study can not end except we look into the personality of the Holy Spirit that sums up the entire purpose, the Holy Spirit as a comforter. Before going into that, discuss the task below.

Task: *what have you learnt so far about the personality of Holy Spirit*

Task: *Tell us about your first encounter with Holy Spirit*

The comforter

It's good to know we've all learnt a lot in the past weeks, now let's go into this last part of His personality, the comforter/Companion.

To best understand the relationship we are supposed to have with the Holy Spirit, we have to diligently study the gospels to understand the relationship Jesus had with the disciples while He was with them in the body.

Task: *Share with us your unforgettable moments with Holy Spirit*

Comfort for humanity

The state of man demands an urgent need for comfort, we see a lot of people in frustration, depression, suicide, and manner of unpleasant activities which indicates a vacuum in the heart of man that nothing but Jesus can fill.

Rom 8:20

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;

The first comfort the Holy Spirit gives to humanity is salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. No one can confess Jesus as Lord except by the Holy Spirit - **1 Cor 12:3**

Comfort for the church

The state of the church in this world of sin indicates a sincere need of comfort. Jesus saw it all and He knew the need for the comfort of the Holy Spirit, then He prayed the Father to send Him to the church.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

The world systems and policies are all turned against Christ and His church, persecutions are being targeted towards anyone who identifies with Christ, we need the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

The comforter

Who is the Promised comforter?

John 13:1

Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

The love of Christ made Him not to leave the church till the end. Jesus' time in the body was over, He had to leave but He would not leave us without comfort, He requested for the Holy Spirit.

Who is this Holy Spirit?

John 14:16-18 (Read and reflect)

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but **ye know him**; for he **dwelleth with you**, and **shall be in you**.*

18 *I will not leave you comfortless: **I will come to you**.*

Jesus Himself is the Holy Spirit, this further confirms the mystery of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit is "**Jesus unlimited**" or "**Jesus without the flesh**". Jesus is always with us as the Holy Spirit.

This last revelation of the personality of the Holy Spirit should change our perception of Him completely and should help us maintain a better relationship with Him.

Task: In which ways can we be comforted by the Holy Spirit?

Conclusion

One of the most important ministry of the Holy Spirit is to comfort us in this world of sin. It is also important for to know that Jesus Himself is the Holy Spirit. The comfort He gives is like the comfort Jesus gave to His disciples while He was physically present with them in the flesh. The Holy Spirit is Jesus unlimited, by flesh, space and time. Jesus through the Holy Spirit can be present with everyone of us, everywhere and at everytime.

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 7

The Spirit of the Lord.

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of the Lord, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Introduction:

There are lots of things to know and learn about the Holy Spirit, the dimension of His operation is one of them, which would be our focus for the next couple of weeks.

What is the meaning of dimension?

According to Cambridge dictionary is a measurement of something in a particular direction especially its height, length, or width.

In addition to physical objects, dimension can describe something less tangible such as the magnitude or extent of something.

Using the latter description, we look at the magnitude and extent of the operations of the Holy Spirit. This study would be addressing the capacity and capability of the Holy Spirit's operation in a believer.

Isaiah 11: 1-2, points out the Holy Spirit operation in the life of Jesus. He mentioned

These 7 dimensions of the Holy Spirit fully operated in the life of Jesus Christ when He walked on earth. They are:

1. The Spirit of the Lord.
2. The Spirit of Wisdom.
3. The Spirit of understanding.
4. The Spirit of Counsel.
5. The Spirit of Might.
6. The Spirit of Knowledge
7. And the fear of the Lord.

The spirit of the Lord:

It is easy to say the Spirit of the Lord is the Holy Spirit Himself, but from what was written in the book of Isaiah, we realise that it's a dimension of the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit of the Lord could simply mean the spirit of power enhanced by irresistible divine authority. Understanding this will help us to comprehend the operation of Jesus on earth in this dimension.

"what manner of man is this, even the wind and the sea obey Him..." Matt 8:27

The Spirit of the Lord.

Jesus, operated in the dimension of the spirit of the Lord and He consistently exercised authority over every spirit, principality, situation, circumstances etc

Task1: *What does this dimension of the Holy Spirit allow us to do?*

Ish 61:1-3

- Preach the good news.
- Bind up the broken hearted
- Deliverance
- Heal
- Judgement
- Prophecy
- Worship
- Holiness

We have just read through the manifestation of the dimension of the Spirit of the Lord. So, discuss the next task to identify how this dimension is applicable to us in our daily life.

Task 2: *In which areas do we manifest this dimension of the Holy Spirit ?*

We need the spirit of the Lord:

In Matt 3:16, Jh 1:32 and Isa 42:1 – The references indicates how Jesus was filled with the spirit of God, as a requirement to fulfil His earthly ministry. Now, if Jesus, the Son of God required the Spirit of the Lord to rest upon Him for Him to step into the fullness of His ministry, much more, you and I need the Spirit of the Lord to rest upon us.

The Bible says in the book of John 4:24 that “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” So, when the Scriptures says the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, that is actually telling us indirectly that the glory of the Lord, the weight of God’s essence and personality shall be upon Him. He shall carry the weight of Go

Conclusion:

If you want to do the work of God in this year and you want to fulfil your ministry, then you must be a man that carries the presence of God in reality. When Holy Sprit permanently resides in us, and we understand His operation, we become empowered to operate in the dimension of the Spirit of the Lord.

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 8

The Spirit of Wisdom

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of wisdom, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Text: Isa 11:1-2

Introduction:

The next in order of arrangement of the listed dimensions of the Holy Spirit is the spirit of wisdom. This dimension is very interesting, as it links with other dimensions so much in operation. All the dimensions are interconnected. Knowledge helps you to know, understanding to understand and wisdom helps to apply what we know and understand correctly.

Do not confuse this with the spiritual gifts mentioned in 1 Cor 12:8, words of wisdom is different from the spirit of wisdom. Word of wisdom is a subset or product of the spirit of wisdom.

What is the Spirit of Wisdom:

The spirit of wisdom is the dimension of the Holy Spirit responsible for making us apply the knowledge and understanding of God, His word, His power, and all other attributes, rightly in every situation we are found.

- The Spirit of Wisdom is the dimension of the Holy Spirit as a HELPER, imparting us with wisdom needed to live a godly life on earth doing God's will.
- It is the dimension of the Holy Spirit that constantly imparts divine wisdom to us to handle every situation that we are confronted with.
- The spirit of wisdom is a dimension that helps us in effective soulwinning.

Task1: *In which way is the spirit of wisdom applicable to our daily life?*

Why do we need the Spirit of Wisdom:

No man can know the mysteries of life, or man can understand the secrets of God without the Spirit of Wisdom.

By the Spirit of Wisdom, we have access into the mysteries of God. We know what to do. Wisdom is a principal requirement for the journey of life Prov 4:7. (career, ministry, marriage, finances etc.). It is important for life and destiny.

The Spirit of Wisdom

Task 2: *What does the spirit of wisdom enable you to do?*

The spirit of wisdom enables a believer to operate in the following ways:

- Discernment
- Evangelism
- Communication
- Plan and act.
- Interpretation of dreams and visions.
- Counselling
- Making right choices
- Creative – Exod 28:32; 31:3

How can you receive this dimension of the spirit of wisdom?

- *By praying – James 1:5*
- *By laying of hands – Deu 34:9*
- *By consistently studying the word of God – Col 3:16*
- *By living a holy life – Eccl 2:26*

Biblical examples of the Spirit of Wisdom in operation:

King Solomon 1 kgs 3:10–28

Daniel – Dan 5:11

Jesus – Jh 7: 3–11 the woman caught in adultery. The Holy Spirit granted Jesus wisdom to say the right words to an angry self-righteous crowd who got convicted by their conscience.

Conclusion

We need the spirit of wisdom in this world to be able to fulfil the purpose of God for our lives. Life is a product of all decisions made at different times; we need the spirit of wisdom to help us make right decisions.

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 9

The Spirit of Understanding

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of understanding, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Text: Isa 11:1-2

Introduction

The Spirit of Understanding is God's supernatural revelation—His secret insights to His Word. Understanding simply means a "putting together" or a comprehending or a grasping of His Word. The Spirit of God illuminates our hearts and gives us understanding of His Wisdom. In other words, He "turns on the lights for us."

How many times have you sat down and read God's Word, gotten up and not remembered a thing you read? Well, God's Spirit of Understanding was not operating. The spirit of understanding makes you understand mysteries, You'll understand what's going on behind the scenes. You'll be able to piece together what's really happening.

Task1: *Why do we need the spirit of understanding?*

By the spirit of understanding, all mysteries are unravelled. We are enabled to comprehend the scriptures beyond head knowledge. Several things will become clearer to you such as:

Why people act the way they do.

Ability to see people and situations with God's eyes and maintain His perspective.

Discerning God's timing more easily.

The Spirit of understanding, the Holy Spirit, is also where the gift of discernment of spirits comes from. When you have understanding, you'll be able to discern what spirit is saying or causing things you deal with from day to day.

The carnal mind will not appropriate the power of the cross because they just can't get it. The concepts and information are simple enough on their own but you can see in their glassy-eyed indifference or angry rejection that they don't understand.

1 Corinthians 2:6-13

you must bear this in mind, the key to understanding the wisdom of God decreed in the gospel is the Holy Spirit. You cannot get to God on your own. The Spirit must give understanding.

John 6:63 – the word of God is spirit, so only a spiritual mind can comprehend it.

The Spirit of God exposes the mind of the God to us.

Scientists may be able to see that there is something happening in different parts of your brain at different times but science cannot reveal our thoughts. Studies can show that we are thinking but science cannot reveal what we are thinking. You have to tell your thoughts for someone to know them. But do you have to tell yourself your thoughts? No, your spirit knows your thoughts.

What is true concerning your spirit knowing your thoughts is true of God's Spirit knowing His thoughts.

Task2: *How do we receive the Spirit?*

Job 32:8; Luke 24:45 – the spirit of understanding comes by the inspiration of the Almighty. Meditating on the word of God continually.

We receive Him by faith; by believing what He is teaching. But we see in this passage that the Spirit is doing more than teaching. He is enabling understanding; enabling receiving. Like the wind blowing we don't know where it comes from or where it goes we just see its effects. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit (John 3:8).

We do not know exactly how it is that God overcomes our spiritual inability to understand the gospel. We just know the Spirit does it. We go from rejecting the Spirit and spurning the gospel to receiving the Spirit by God's sovereign work.

Conclusion:

We need the operate in the dimension of the spirit of understanding for us to be able to unravel the mysteries of life, understand the scripture and to fulfil our God-given purpose in life.

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 10

The Spirit of Counsel

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of counsel, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Text: Isa 11:1-2

Introduction:

Another important dimension of the Holy Spirit is the spirit of counsel. The Spirit of Counsel gives us the supernatural knowledge of God's will for our own individual lives. In other words, it's God's personal instructions, His directions, to help us make godly choices! (Ephesians 1:11c).

The spirit of counsel for personal help

The Spirit of Counsel is like our personal advisor, our helper, our guide. He tells us what we should and shouldn't do. Remember Philippians 2:13, where God promises us that He is in us "...to will of His good pleasure." This means God is in us to let us know what His will is for our own particular situation.

The Old Testament word for counsel is *esa* and it means steerage or not letting us veer off course (i.e., not letting us miss the mark- the mark being "conformation to His Image"). Naturally, only God can keep us straight on course, because only He knows our true course.

Task1: *How can the spirit of counsel help us in ministry?*

The spirit of counsel is not limited to helping us in making personal decisions, he helps us to give right counsel.

The Spirit of Counsel

Biblical examples:

Ahithophel - (2Sam 16:23) *this was a man endued by God with the spirit of counsel, to be a counsellor to king David and he counselled like an oracle of God. Until he joined the camp of God's enemy.*

Joseph: - Gen 41 - Joseph demonstrated all the dimensions of the Holy Spirit in Egypt. He has the knowledge of God, Understood dreams, he was wise to apply the understanding and he could draw out a perfect counsel for the king which brought solution to the famine of seven years. This made him become the controller-general of Egypt, he also demonstrated the spirit of might, in that he was able to do the task perfectly.

Daniel - Dan 4:19-27 - Daniel knew the dream, interpreted it and gave counsel to the king.

Conclusion:

We need the spirit of counsel both to make right choices in our day-to-day life and also to be able to minister right counsel to people around us.

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 11

The Spirit of Might/Strength

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of might, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Text: Isa 11:1-2

Introduction

Just as we have learnt that all the dimensions of the Holy Spirit works in harmony to bring forth a perfect result, we will look into another dimension today, the spirit of might, which complements the previous ones. This is an active dimension of the Holy Spirit, which helps us to carry out the actions from the counsel we have received

The spirit of might

God's Spirit of Strength is God's supernatural ability to take what He has counselled us, bring it forth, and then perform it or accomplish it in our lives. In other words, what good is knowing what God's will is if we don't have the strength or the power to carry it out?

This dimension was what was missing the lives of the disciples when they could not watch with Jesus for an hour - Matt 26:41

Task 1: *Why do you need the spirit of might?*

Have you ever wondered why you struggle to pray for 1 hour, while others pray more hours?

Have you ever wondered why you struggle with procrastination or abandon projects? These questions and many more represents the fact that such person is not operating in this dimension of the Holy Spirit.

Again, Philippians 2:13 tells us, "For it is God which worketh in you, both to will [counseling us as to what His Will is] and to do [giving us His Power and ability to perform that Will in our lives]...."

The Spirit of Might/Strength

Task2: *discuss daily life applications of the spirit of might.*

God doesn't need any of our own natural abilities or strengths in order to help Him accomplish His will. In fact, when we try to perform His will in our own strength, we simply get in the way. Even though we might have great capabilities and assets of our own, we must still choose to set those aside and trust Him in everything. He tells us, "Without Me, ye can do nothing." (John 15:5) In other words, everything we do in our own ability, apart from His Spirit of Strength, is going to chalk up to worthlessness. Depending on God gives the real strength for success.

Conclusion:

We need the spirit of might for us to be awakened, and to leave the realm of dreaming into the realm of real fulfilment. Dream is all that a sleeping man can see, we have to be awake to see manifestation and fulfilment of dreams.

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 12

The Spirit of knowledge

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of Knowledge, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Text: Isa 11:1-2

Introduction:

Over the years, it has been observed that the difference between a victorious Christian and one who is not is the knowledge they possess. In Hosea 4:6, God says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Sadly, God's people are not destroyed because they don't have money or ability; they are destroyed because they don't have knowledge. Our current limitations and accomplishments are directly related to our level of knowledge or lack thereof. You can always be larger and better than you are today if you have the right kind of knowledge.

Spirit of knowledge:

This is the dimension of the Holy Spirit that enables a believer to have information about things, sometimes both learnt and unlearnt. No one learns divine revelation; we only receive it from God. The divine knowledge that comes from the Spirit of God is referred to as revelational knowledge. Revelation knowledge is more than simple facts about God; it is the knowledge of God that God has been miraculously ignited in us by His Spirit and imparted to our spirits.

Task1: *Discuss the applications of the spirit of knowledge.*

Manifestations of the spirit of knowledge:

- *Words of knowledge*
- *Revelation*
- *Preaching*
- *Discernment*
- *Intelligence*

Biblical examples:

Peter: Lord Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered Him by declaring, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:15-17), Jesus was saying, "Peter, you didn't learn this information through your physical senses. You had it imparted to your human spirit directly by the Spirit of God."

Daniel - Dan 2:19-24 - Daniel was able to receive Nebuchadnezzar's dream as a revelation and he also interpreted it to him, saving the lives of all the magicians.

Jesus - Jesus Christ demonstrated this dimension in many ways. - Matt 12:25;25; John 2:24; 6:64. Jesus was always speaking right words and taking right decisions because he manifested in the dimension of the spirit of knowledge.

Task2: *Why do we need the spirit of knowledge?*

The most common reason for faith failure is a lack of revelation knowledge. Most Christians believe God's Word with their brains but haven't dwelt on it long enough for the Spirit of Knowledge to "light it up" in their hearts. If you dwell on the word of God it would completely transform their life and nothing would be able to shake them from their faith in Christ. We need this dimension called the spirit of knowledge, for us to be success both in life and our walk with God. The power of God to excel in life and godliness was given to us by the spirit of knowledge - 2 Pet 1:3

Conclusion:

Revelational knowledge of God in your spirit man will propel you to the next degree of glory and power.

"What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God; that we might become aware of the things that are freely given to us by God." (1 Corinthians 2:12). "You will know the truth and the truth will set you free." (John 8:32) Satan is a liar and the father of all lies. (John 8:44) The only way to win the war for truth is to have revelation knowledge.

It is time to get acquainted with the Spirit of knowledge. The best of who you are will only be unveiled through your intimacy with Him

Dimensions of the Holy Spirit

Week 13

The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord

Objective: To understand the dimensions of the Holy Spirit, with a focus on the Spirit of the fear of the Lord, and to be able to operate in this dimension.

Text: Isa 11:1-2

Introduction:

The fear of the Lord is a recurring theme throughout the Bible, emphasizing a deep reverence, awe, and respect for God. It is not a fear characterized by dread but rather a healthy reverence for the Almighty. The spirit of the fear of the Lord is foundational to a strong and vibrant relationship with God.

Definition and Understanding

The spirit of the fear of God is the dimension of the Holy Spirit that enables us to abstain from sin, reverence and worship God genuinely from our spirit. He guides us into wisdom, perfection and excellence.

a. Proverbs 1:7 (NIV):

- "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

b. Psalm 111:10 (ESV):

- "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!"

Characteristics of the Fear of the Lord:

a. Humility:

- Proverbs 22:4 (NIV):

- "*Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life.*"

b. Obedience:

- Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV):

- "*And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.*"

c. Worship:

- Psalm 96:9 (NIV):

- "*Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.*"

The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord

Apply it to your Life:

a. Reflect:

- Take time to reflect on your own reverence and fear of the Lord.

b. Prayer:

- Pray for a deeper understanding and experience of the fear of the Lord.

c. Action:

- Identify practical ways to demonstrate the fear of the Lord in your daily life.

Conclusion:

The spirit of the fear of the Lord is a foundational aspect of our relationship with God. As we cultivate a deep reverence for Him, we open ourselves to the many benefits He promises. May we continually seek to grow in the fear of the Lord, recognizing it as the beginning of wisdom and the key to a life that pleases God.