



GOD THE SPIRIT – IN THE BEGINNING (7)

START HERE:

Yahweh – God the Father – was in the beginning.

The Word – God the Son – was in the beginning.

So it shouldn't be any surprise that God the Spirit was in the beginning, too. In fact, it couldn't be any other way since they are three-in-one.

In the formless chaos, before creation began, the Spirit of God hovered over the surface of the deep waters (Gen. 1:2). Then God – the Father, the Son, and the Spirit – created the heavens and the earth. Everything.

The Spirit has always existed. He didn't just suddenly appear out of thin air when Jesus left earth. But things did change then (see John 7:39). Up until then, the Spirit filled, led, and empowered just certain people in certain circumstances for a certain period of time. Now, the Spirit dwells permanently within everyone who follows Jesus as their Savior, King, and Lord.

Have you ever imagined what it would be like if Jesus were here today, walking with, talking with, teaching, and leading his followers? Have you ever thought life would be better if he were here? Or that you would be a better follower if he were here? It makes sense, from a human viewpoint.

But Jesus told his closest friends and followers that it was better for his Spirit to be **within** them than it was for him to stay on earth with them.

It might seem illogical, but Jesus said it's true. We can trust him on this.

READ THIS: John 14:15-26 . John 16: 5-15

THINK ABOUT:

Up to this point in your life with Christ, what have you heard or learned about the Holy Spirit?

What questions do you have about the Holy Spirit?

What does the Bible tell us about the Holy Spirit in these passages?

How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in your life?

AM: Ask the Lord to help you live humbly today, thinking of others before yourself. Do this as an act of praise to God.

PM: How did Jesus' example of humble and obedient living shape your own attitudes and actions today?

Dear Lord - Thank you for the example of Jesus' life, for the reminder that the One who was worthy of praise chose to humble himself in obedience to you. Lord, shape me into someone who lives humbly, putting others before myself as Jesus did. Shape me into someone who does not seek praise for myself but finds joy in imitating and praising your Son. Amen.

EXTRA THINGS

In the very early days of Israel's history, God's Spirit would sometimes "come upon" individual people (including Bezalel, a master craftsman; Moses, who led the Israelites out of Egypt; Joshua, who continued the work of Moses; Gideon, Jephthah, and Samson, who all served as national leaders and judges; Saul and David, the first two kings; Ezekiel and other prophets) and sometimes he came upon groups of people (including wise elders and kings' men).

*The Hebrew word most often translated in the Bible as "Spirit" is **ruwach** (ROO'-ahk). It is also translated as wind (Genesis 8:1, Exodus 14:21, Numbers 11:31, etc.) or breath (Exodus 15:10, Numbers 27:16, etc.) depending on the context.*

EXTRA VERSES

Joel 2:28-32
Acts 2:1-17

EXTRA STUFF

Listen to "[Holy Spirit You are Welcome Here](#)" (there are various artists' version on You Tube).

Watch Bible Project's [video about the Holy Spirit](#).

