



GOD THE SPIRIT – COMFORTER AND GUIDE (8)

START HERE:

Everything about God is mysterious and beyond human understanding. But the Spirit seems to be especially mysterious. Most people have at least some idea and understanding of “father.” Most people can relate to his “son” Jesus by reading about his human life and experiences.

But Spirit?

What does that even mean? We use that word for many different things today. School “spirit” is about energy and excitement. Christmas “spirit” is about joy and generosity. Doing something with the right “spirit” refers to a person’s attitude. People with an entrepreneurial “spirit” are driven by new ideas and challenges.

Today people usually use “spirit” to refer to an attitude, an essence, or a defining characteristic about someone. But those don’t come close to explaining who the Spirit is.

One way to begin understanding the Holy Spirit is to remember that he is also called “God’s Spirit” and “the spirit of Christ” in the Bible. The Spirit of God/Christ is the very essence and presence of God that fills our lives and binds us together with him and with one another.

That still leaves a lot mystery and supernatural unknowns.

Fortunately, the Bible does say some very specific things about the Spirit. We can at least start with those, and then keep learning more as we continue to follow Jesus.

READ & THINK:

As you read each verse, write down the specific truth it reveals about God the Spirit.

John 14:26, 15:26

Acts 1:8

Acts 5:32

Romans 8:26

1 Corinthians 2:10-13

1 Corinthians 3:16

1 Corinthians 6:19

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

2 Corinthians 1:22

2 Corinthians 3:17

Galatians 5:16-18

Ephesians 1:13-14

Psalms 139:7

AM / PM:

AM: Ask the Lord to make you aware of the Spirit’s presence in your life today.

PM: How did you sense the Spirit guiding you, nudging you, comforting you, encouraging you?

Dear Lord - Teach me to sense your Spirit, to listen to your Spirit, and to be sensitive to how the Spirit is leading and guiding me. I want to surrender to your power, Jesus’ love, and the Spirit’s transforming presence in my life. Amen.

EXTRA THINGS

The Bible tells us that God’s Spirit is not the only unseen spirit. Reality extends far beyond what we see with our eyes.

Paul wrote these words to one of the first churches:

“Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against the strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.”

We should ‘wear’ these things every day:

- ◊ belt of truth
- ◊ armor of God’s righteousness
- ◊ shoes of peace
- ◊ shield of faith
- ◊ helmet of salvation
- ◊ sword of the Spirit (the Word of God)

(see Ephesians 6)

EXTRA VERSES

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

EXTRA STUFF

[*“Hymn of the Holy Spirit”*](#) by Pat Barrett

[*“This I Believe \(The Creed\)”*](#)

[*“Holy Spirit”*](#)