

**CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP  
SERIES: THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**THE OFFICES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**INTRODUCTION:**

○ **The Office of the Holy Spirit**

Mr. Spurgeon once preached what in his judgment was one of his poorest sermons. He stammered and floundered, and when he got through, he felt that it had been a complete failure. He was greatly humiliated, and when he got home, he fell on his knees and said, “Lord, God, Thou canst do something with nothing. Bless that poor sermon.”

And all through the week he uttered that prayer. He woke up in the night and prayed about it. He determined that the next Sunday, he would redeem himself by preaching a great sermon. Sure enough, the next Sunday the sermon went off beautifully. At the close the people crowded about him and covered him with praise. Spurgeon went home pleased with himself, and that night he slept like a baby. But he said to himself, “I’ll watch the results of those two sermons.” What were they?

From the one that has seemed a failure he was able to trace forty-one conversions. And from that magnificent sermon he was unable to discover that a single soul was saved. The Spirit of God used the one and did not use the other. We can do nothing without the Spirit who helps our infirmities. – (Source: Bible Illustrations – AMG Publishing)

1. **This experience taught Spurgeon that a sermon without the Saviour of Christ is useless.** It also taught him to depend on God. The Spirit of God uses the sermon, not the minister’s intellectual or rhetorical skills to bring people to salvation. Jesus says, “.... Apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5).
2. **We should always rely completely on the Holy Spirit to change hearts.**
3. **The Believer’s goal is to point unbelievers to Christ and trust that the Holy Spirit will change their hearts.**

**PROPOSITION:**

**In this Bible Study, we will survey three (3) Offices of the Holy Spirit as recorded in the Gospel of John, the Beloved Apostle as follows: (1) The Holy Spirit Quickens, (2) The Holy Spirit Indwells, and (3) The Holy Spirit Outflows.**

I. **THE HOLY SPIRIT QUICKENS** (John 3:5-6)

“<sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit (John 3:5-6).

○ **Quicken** means to make alive, revive, give life, spiritual rebirth

- A. **Christ informed Nicodemus that he must be born of the water and the Spirit.**  
Otherwise, he could not enter the Kingdom of God.

1. **The water and the Spirit refers to the spiritual cleansing promised in Ezekiel 36:25-27, where God cleanses Believers from impurity and grants a new heart and a new Spirit.**
  - “<sup>25</sup> Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. <sup>26</sup> A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them” (Eze 36:25-27).
  - a. **Water** represents spiritual cleansing from sin and impurities; the removal of impurities rather than being one.
  - b. **The Symbol of the Spirit** represents the cleansing work of the Holy Spirit.
    - God gives Believers a new heart for following Him and puts His Spirit within them to transform them and empower them to do His will – **Live For God!**
2. **The Water and the Spirit Work Together** – referred to as the washing of regeneration or spiritual cleansing.
  - “<sup>5</sup> Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” (Titus 3:5).

**B. The New Birth is necessary to enter the Kingdom of God – Why? (Eph 2:1-7)**

1. **Before conversion** – a person is spiritually dead, depraved, and disobedient because of trespasses and sins (v. 1).
  - a. **Trespasses** are sins which are willfully and deliberately committed in open violation of God’s commandments and commands.
  - b. **Sins** are missing the mark of God’s law; It can be intentional or unintentional.
2. Unbelievers walk according to the ways of the world (v. 3).

**C. The Believer’s Conversion (vv. 4-7)**

A person is saved **By** Grace **Through** Faith **In** Christ Jesus Alone.

1. **Grace** is God giving us what we do not deserve – Salvation, Eternal Life and Heaven.
2. **Grace** costs the Believer nothing, yet it cost God everything (The death of His Son). It is completely free and unearned.

**STUDY QUESTIONS:**

1. **In what ways can you reflect God’s mercy in your interactions with others this week?**
2. **What are some ways we can remind ourselves of the Assurance of Salvation by Grace, especially during times of doubt or struggle?**

## II. THE HOLY SPIRIT INDWELLS (John 14:17)

**“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”** (John 14:17).

- **Indwelling** of the Holy Spirit is the permanent, intimate presence of God living within a Believer upon conversion, marking them as belonging to Christ. He takes us permanent residence in the body of a Believer in Christ Jesus.

**The indwelling of the Holy Spirit lives in the Believer and He will bring some life-changing results:**

**A. He will never leave the Believer** – He abides (stays) with us forever (John 14:16).

**B. He lives with us and in us (the Believer)** – (John 14:17).

**C. He confirms to the Believer that he belongs to God**

- “<sup>19</sup> What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's” (1 Cor 6:19-20).

- “Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men” (1 Cor 7:23).

**D. He helps the Believer to understand and apply the scripture to his daily life** (1 Cor 2:12).

- “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God” (1 Cor 2:12).

1. He opens our mind to comprehend the spiritual meaning of Bible verses and places Godly wisdom over worldly wisdom.

2. Godly wisdom is focused on pleasing God, glorifying God and Holy living. Worldly wisdom is focused on pleasing self, unconcerned about God.

### **STUDY QUESTION:**

- **What practical steps can you take to ensure you are living by the Spirit and not influenced by worldly values?**

**E. He helps us to resist temptation** (1 Cor 10:13)

- **“Flee Fornication”**- Sexual immorality (1 Cor 10:13)
- **“Flee from Idolatry”**- False worship and Images (1 Cor 10:14)
- **“Flee Youthful Lust”** – Flee from immature, selfish, or passionate desires that contradicts a Godly life (2 Tim 2:22)

- **Flee the Love of Money/Materialism** – (1 Tim 6:10-11)

Flee from the desire for wealth, which causes people to wander from the faith and brings many sorrows.

- **Flee** means to run away quickly, not to linger or negotiate with temptation.
- **Rely on God** – Take advantage of God’s way to escape.

### **STUDY QUESTIONS:**

1. How does understanding that temptation is “common to man” change your perspective on your personal struggles?
2. In what ways have you experienced God’s faithfulness in providing a way out of temptation in your life?

### **III. THE HOLY SPIRIT OUTFLOWS (John 7:37-39)**

“<sup>37</sup>In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. <sup>38</sup>He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. <sup>39</sup>(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)” - (John 7:37-39).

- **Outflows** means to move as a liquid to rise, to overflow. In John 7:38, Jesus used that term “Living Water” to refer to the Holy Spirit.

#### **A. Christ said, those who believe in Him as the Savior, out of his heart will flow rivers of “Living Water” to others.**

1. The rivers of “living water” provides the Believer with spiritual refreshment, nourishment, and eternal life.
  - **Spiritual Refreshment** is the renewal of faith, strength, and inner peace through God’s presence, scripture, prayer, worship, and fellowship.
  - **Spiritual Nourishment** is received primarily through reading, studying, and meditating on the Word of God. It also involves having an active prayer life with God.
  - **Eternal Life** is “... Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved...” (Acts 16:31).
2. Believers will eagerly share their testimony with others – telling others how great god is and what he means to you.

#### **B. Christ Offered Living Water**

Who is thirsty (symbolizing longing and need), and believes in Him, promising that this living water will transform them into a channel of divine life and blessing to others.

### **STUDY QUESTIONS:**

- How can Believers allow the “rivers of living water” to overflow in our communities and relationships?

### MEMORY VERSES:

“<sup>1</sup>I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Rom 12:1-2).

### CONCLUSION:

**A. Offices of the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit Quickens, The Holy Spirit Indwells, and The Holy Spirit Outflows.**

**B. It is that great change which God works in the soul, when He brings it into life; when He raises it from the death of sin to the life of righteousness. It is the change wrought in the whole soul by the Almighty Spirit of God, when it is "created anew in Christ Jesus," when it is "renewed after the image of God, in righteousness and true holiness"; when the love of the world is changed into the love of God, pride into humility, passion into meekness; hatred, envy, malice, into a sincere, tender, disinterested love for all mankind. In a word, it is that change whereby the earthly, sensual, devilish mind is turned into the "mind which was in Christ Jesus." This is the nature of the new birth. "So is every one that is born of the Spirit." – (J. Wesley – Bible Hub – John 3:5)**

### **C. ABC's of Salvation**

- **A – Admit** that you're a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13).



From the Teaching Ministry of:  
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).