

CHAPTER FOUR

THE SPIRIT WITHIN YOU

Christ arose—and now he lives! When he ascended into heaven, he did not leave his followers alone. He sent them the Holy Spirit so that all Christians might live under his control.

JESUS CHRIST'S ASCENSION

1. Read carefully the account of Jesus' ascension in Acts 1:9-11.
 - a. In your own words, briefly describe the events recorded in verses 9-10, and what they mean to you.

 - b. Where is Jesus now? *Verse 11* _____
 - c. What did the two men clothed in white predict? *Verse 11*

2. What is one reason Jesus has gone to heaven? *John 14:1-3*

3. Read Ephesians 1:20-23. To what place of authority has Christ ascended? *Verse 20*

From this position, over what does he reign? *Verses 21-23*

JESUS CHRIST'S WORK OF INTERCESSION

4. What is Christ doing now? *Romans 8:34*

(*Intercession* means to plead on behalf of another.)

5. In Jesus' great prayer recorded in John 17, what were some of the things he asked for his followers?

Verse 13 _____

Verse 15 _____

Verse 17 _____

Verse 21 _____

Verse 24 _____

6. Do you think Jesus is praying the same things for you today? Explain your answer. *Hebrews 7:24-25*

**THE INDWELLING
HOLY SPIRIT**

7. What did Jesus promise his disciples that his Father would do?
John 14:16,26

8. What can be said of a person who genuinely acknowledges that Jesus is his Lord? *1 Corinthians 12:3*

9. What is true of every believer?
Romans 8:9

1 Corinthians 2:12

1 Corinthians 3:16

Titus 3:5-6

10. Why does God send his Spirit to indwell the believer? Circle the letter of the correct answer. *Galatians 4:6*

- a. Because the believer has been baptized.
- b. Because the believer is his child.
- c. Because the believer has dedicated his life to him.
- d. Because the believer has had a special experience.

11. What are some results of the Holy Spirit's presence in the life of the believer? *2 Timothy 1:7*

12. Review questions 7–11. How do you personally know the Holy Spirit lives in you?

**LIVING UNDER
THE HOLY SPIRIT'S
CONTROL**

13. What are two conflicting natures in your life?
Galatians 5:16-17

Who should control your life?

Here is one illustration of the power which results from the union of the Holy Spirit with the believer:

"I have in my hand a piece of lead. I hold it over a pool of water; and relax my grip. The lead is drawn irresistibly earthwards and sinks to the bottom of the pool. It has been mastered by the law of gravitation. I take the same piece of lead, attach it to a piece of wood and drop it into the pool. Now it floats. No change has taken place in the nature or tendency of the lead, nor has the law of gravitation ceased to function, but through its union with the wood, it has been mastered by a stronger law, the law governing floating bodies, and has been emancipated from the downward pull of gravitation."

J. OSWALD SANDERS³

14. Whom does the Holy Spirit glorify? *John 16:13-14*

³ From *The Holy Spirit and His Gifts* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1940), 57.

15. What is the “sword” of the Spirit? *Ephesians 6:17*

16. What effect does the Word of God have on the believer?
Hebrews 4:12

17. What is one activity in which the Holy Spirit helps you? How?
Romans 8:26

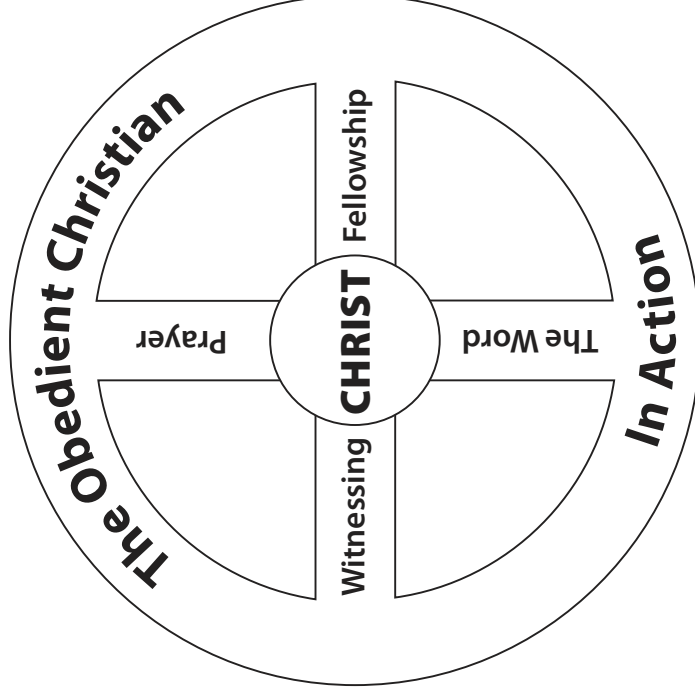
18. What were some of the disciples’ activities after being filled with the Holy Spirit? *Acts 2:42*

19. In Acts 1:8, Jesus used the expression “you will” twice. He made both of these statements in conjunction with the Holy Spirit coming on the disciples. What two statements did he make?

How does the Holy Spirit help you in witnessing?

The Spirit-filled life is:

- A life of obedience to the Holy Spirit (question 13)
- A life centered on the person of Jesus Christ (question 14)
- A life founded on God’s Word (question 16)
- A life of prayer (question 17)
- A life of fellowship (question 18)
- A life that witnesses (question 19)



The Wheel Illustration is a helpful way to remember these basic truths about the Spirit-filled life. It is a Christ-centered life. The Holy Spirit focuses your attention on *Christ* and empowers you to live a life of *obedience* to him. *God’s Word* and *prayer* build you up in a relationship with Christ so he can live through you and reach others through *fellowship* and *witnessing*. Without drawing attention to himself, the Holy Spirit shapes each activity into an avenue of spiritual blessing.

20. Read Acts 4:31-33. List examples of the principles from the Wheel which are demonstrated by the disciples in this passage.

Remember These Points

- Jesus Christ promised that after he left he would prepare a place for believers. The apostles watched as Jesus ascended out of their sight into heaven.
- Sitting at the right hand of God, Christ reigns over all creation and in particular the church for which he is constantly praying.
- Jesus Christ also promised to send the Holy Spirit after he left. Today he comes to live in every believer.
- The Holy Spirit gives us power to lead an obedient, Christ-centered life.