

CHAPTER THREE

THE HOLY SPIRIT

2. What indications are there in the following verses that the Holy Spirit is God?

Genesis 1:2 _____

Hebrews 9:14 _____

Psalms 139:7-8 _____

3. When Ananias and Sapphira forfeited their lives (Acts 5:1-10), to whom had they lied?

Verse 3 _____

Verse 4 _____

The Bible explains what kind of relationship Christians can have with the Holy Spirit.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

1. What activities or characteristics of the Holy Spirit are mentioned in the following verses?

Acts 13:2 _____

1 Corinthians 2:10 _____

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 _____

1 Corinthians 12:11 _____

Ephesians 4:30 _____

Do these verses indicate that the Holy Spirit is a real person (though not physical)? Explain.

In the Bible, the Holy Spirit has several names, including Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Spirit of Christ, Spirit of Jesus, and Spirit of God.

THE TRINITY

God exists as three persons (referred to as the Trinity)—yet he is one. The three persons of the Trinity are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These three are one in substance, and function in perfect harmony.

The human mind cannot fully comprehend God, especially his revelation of himself as the Trinity. Yet we see unity with diversity in all parts of God's creation, all of which to a limited degree illustrate God's marvelous nature: one God in three persons.

■ The Father is God invisible—John 1:18.

■ The Son is God revealed—John 1:14-18, Hebrews 1:1-4.

■ The Holy Spirit is God working in men—John 16:8; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 and 6:19-20.

(Other passages that teach about the Trinity are Matthew 3:16-17 and 28:19; John 14:16; 2 Corinthians 13:14; and 1 Peter 1:2.)

WHO HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

4. How is the Holy Spirit involved in every conversion?

John 3:5-6 _____

Ephesians 1:13-14 _____

Titus 3:5 _____

5. What has happened to every member of the body of Christ?
1 Corinthians 12:13

6. Read Romans 8:9-14. What statements indicate that every believer has received the Holy Spirit?

7. In spite of their imperfect lives, what does Paul remind the believers in Corinth? *1 Corinthians 3:16*

8. Review your answer to question 12 in Book One, chapter 4. How have your convictions been strengthened regarding the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life?

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

9. Read John 16:7-15.

a. What is the Spirit of God doing today? *Verses 8-11*

b. What is he doing for believers? *Verse 13*

c. Who or what does he emphasize? *Verses 14-15*

10. Read Galatians 5:19-25. Notice the works (plural) of the flesh as contrasted with the fruit (singular) of the Spirit. Why do you think the word *fruit* is singular although several items are mentioned? (Compare with John 15:5.)

Just as light diffuses into a rainbow of colors when it shines through a prism, so the pure life of Christ can be displayed in your life by an array of Christian virtues.

11. The victorious Christian life is the subject of Romans 8. How does the Holy Spirit help you live in victory?

Verse 2 _____

Verse 14 _____

Verse 16 _____

Verse 26 _____

12. What role did the Holy Spirit play in Paul's missionary work?

Acts 13:2-4 _____

Acts 16:6-7 _____

1 Corinthians 2:4 _____

**THE GIFTS
OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT**

13. The foundational passage for the subject of spiritual gifts is 1 Corinthians 12–14. Answer the following questions from 1 Corinthians 12.

- a. How many believers have received a gift (a spiritual ability) from the Holy Spirit? *Verses 7, 11*

- b. Who decides which gifts are given to a believer?
Verses 11, 18

- c. For what purpose are these gifts given? (Compare verse 7 with 1 Peter 4:10.)

- d. Why is there a variety of gifts in the body? *Verses 14–19*

- e. Does God want everyone to have the same gifts?
Verses 28–30

- f. What gifts are mentioned in this chapter?
Verses 8–10 and 28–30

14. What other gifts are mentioned in Romans 12:6–8 and in Ephesians 4:11?

15. What are one or two ways that you have been best able to help other Christians?

Perhaps what you have listed is a gift from the Holy Spirit. Ask yourself:

- Am I fulfilled in this activity?
- Are others fulfilled by this activity?
- Does unity and spiritual growth result from this activity?

How might you further develop your ability to help other Christians?

Are you anxious to discover your spiritual gifts? God will show you this as you grow spiritually and lead a Christlike life. Remember you are to bear all the *fruit* of the Spirit, but not to possess all the *gifts* of the Spirit.

16. If someone urged you to seek a particular gift of the Holy Spirit, what scriptural guidelines from 1 Corinthians 12–14 could you use in determining your response?

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

17. Read Ephesians 5:18-21.

a. What is God's commandment concerning the Holy Spirit?
Verse 18

b. List several results of being filled with the Spirit.
Verses 19-21

18. What is being filled with the Holy Spirit compared to in Ephesians 5:18? How are they similar, and how are they different?

SIMILAR

DIFFERENT

19. What are some other results of being filled with the Spirit?

Acts 4:31

Acts 11:24

Romans 5:5

20. What are you warned against in your relationship with the Holy Spirit?

1 Thessalonians 5:19

Ephesians 4:30

21. Look at the verses surrounding Ephesians 4:30.

a. What are some of the things that grieve the Holy Spirit?

b. Is there anything in your life that grieves the Holy Spirit?

c. What steps do you need to take?

Remember These Points

Review the chapter subtopics and use them as an outline to write your own summary of the chapter.
