

PNEUMA: The Indwelling Spirit of God...Week 1

There are some things God won't let us discover through instruction,
but only through adventure. ~ Bill Johnson

Strong's Definitions [?]

(Strong's Definitions Legend)

πνεῦμα **pneûma**, pnyoo'-mah; from G4154; a current of air, i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze; by analogy or figuratively, a spirit, i.e. (human) the rational soul, (by implication) vital principle, mental disposition, etc., or (superhuman) an angel, demon, or (divine) God, Christ's spirit, the Holy Spirit:—ghost, life, spirit(-ual, -ually), mind. Compare G5590.

- **INTRO: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON**

- **The Holy Spirit is a person**, not an it, a thing, or a power. Think about this: The Spirit is a person who has personal relationships with not only believers, but also with the Father and the Son. (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).
 - The Holy Spirit thinks and reminds (John 14:26)
 - Holy Spirit speaks (Acts 8:29, 13:2)
 - The Spirit makes decisions (Acts 15:28)
 - The Spirit can be outraged (Eph 4:30)
 - The Spirit can be lied to (Acts 5:3-4)
 - The Spirit can forbid or prevent human plans (Acts 16:6-7)
 - The Spirit searches everything and comprehends God's thoughts (1 Cor 2:10-11)
 - The Spirit portions spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:11)
 - The Holy Spirit helps us, intercedes for us and has a mind (Rom 8:26-27)
 - The Spirit bears witness to all believers about their adoption (Rom 8:16)
 - The Holy Spirit glorifies Christ, takes what is Christ and declares it to believers (John 14:26)
- **The Holy Spirit has emotions.** When we read that it is not wise to grieve the Holy Spirit (Isa. 63:10; Eph. 4:30), it is NOT an exaggeration. It almost seems sacrilegious to say that we could grieve God. Who are we to have such power over the Spirit? That doesn't seem right. In fact, it even seems wrong to say that God has feelings.
 - God created feelings. Sure, like anything else, they can be misused and abused. But the intent and purpose of feelings came from God. Since He created emotions, why is it difficult to believe that He Himself has emotions? The Spirit is grieved when there is a breach in relationship, whether it be relationship with God or relationship with other people.
 - The Spirit is grieved when there is a breach in relationship, whether it be relationship with God or relationship with other people. When we are disunified, unloving, hateful, jealous, gossipy, etc., that is when we grieve the Spirit of God. ~ **Francis Chan, *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit***

- THE HOLY SPIRIT INDWELLS ALL BELIEVERS

- The apostle Paul clearly taught that **we receive the Holy Spirit the moment we receive Jesus Christ as our Savior**:
 - Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have **all** been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:13 NLT-SE)
 - Paul could not say that we all were baptized by one Spirit and all given one Spirit to drink unless all of the Corinthian believers possessed the Holy Spirit.
 - You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, **if the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if **anyone does not have the Spirit** of Christ, he does not belong to Christ...and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead **is living in you**, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, **who lives in you**. (Rom. 8:9, 11 NIV)
 - If a person does not have the Spirit, he does not belong to Christ. Therefore, the **possession of the Spirit** is an identifying factor of the **possession of salvation**.
 - You have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, **you received God's Spirit** when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." For **his Spirit joins with our spirit** to affirm that we are God's children. (Rom. 8:15-16 NLT-SE)
 - This is a remarkable truth...**his Spirit joins with our spirit!** Have you ever thought of the implications of that statement? His Spirit is not intimidated by our spirit, not put off by our spirit, not repelled by our spirit.
 - In Him, you also, after **listening to the message** of truth, the gospel of your salvation — **having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise**, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory. (Eph. 1:13-14 NAS95)
 - **The Holy Spirit could not be the "seal of salvation" if He is not received at the moment of salvation.** Many scriptures make it abundantly clear that our salvation is secured the moment we receive Christ as Savior.
- Do you not know that **you are God's temple** and that **God's Spirit dwells in you**? (1 Cor. 3:16 ESV)
 - **Andrew Murray**, in his book *The Spirit of Christ*, elaborated on this in a way that is very helpful. He said in the Jewish temple there were three courts: the outer court, the inner court, and the Holy of holies. Murray described how our **bodies** are like the outer court. The inner court is like our **mind, our will and our emotions**. But inside of us is the Holy of Holies where the Spirit of God dwells. **The Holy Spirit dwells inside our spirit**. So inside you and inside me is the Holy of holies. The Holy of holies is now IN you!
 - Through the power of **the Holy Spirit who lives within us**, carefully guard the precious truth that has been entrusted to you. (2 Tim. 1:14 NLT-SE)
 - ²⁶ I am writing these things to warn you about those who want to lead you astray. ²⁷ But **you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you**, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ. (1 John. 2:26-27 NLT-SE)
 - Know that even as you seek to understand the Spirit more, He is so much more and bigger than you will ever be able to grasp. This is not an excuse to stop seeking to know Him, but don't limit Him to what you can learn about

Him. **The point is not to completely understand God but to worship Him.** Let the very fact that you cannot know Him fully lead you to praise Him for His infiniteness and grandeur. ~ **Francis Chan, *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit***



Francis Chan

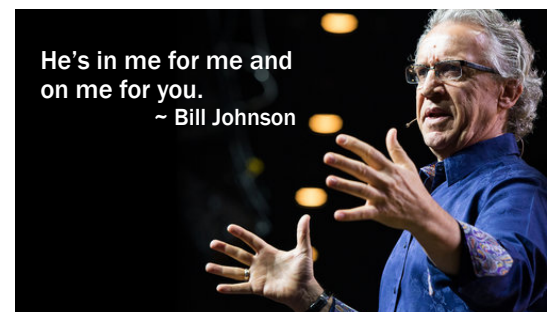
- The Holy Spirit lives in the heart of every believer. Bill Johnson says, “**The Father in heaven is jealous for fellowship with the Spirit of God in you.**” What can block the fellowship between the Father and the Spirit of God in you? Nothing! (Rom 8:31-39)

- THE DIVINE SPIRIT MINGLED WITH OUR HUMAN SPIRIT

- For **those who believe in Christ**, these two spirits are not separate, but are **united and mingled together as one**.
 - In 1 Corinthians 6:17, Paul said, “The person who is joined to the Lord is **one spirit with him.**”
- By this verse we can see that the two spirits are mingled together as “one spirit.” This doesn’t mean a loss of distinction occurs between the two. The Spirit is still the divine Spirit and our human spirit is still our human spirit, but they are united as one. For example, hot tea is a single beverage, but with two distinct ingredients. When we brew tea with water, neither the tea nor the water loses its distinct identity. But brewed together, the two are mingled together as one.
- **The divine Spirit and our human spirit are made one.** This is truly something profound, and yet so experiential!
 - The Holy Spirit appears 59 times in the book of Acts, and in 36 of those appearances **he is speaking.**
 - Throughout Scripture we see that God guides his people in mission by **putting special burdens into their spirits.**
 - When **Nehemiah** left for Jerusalem to rebuild its walls, he didn’t have a command from God. He simply said that God had “put it into his heart” to do it (Neh. 2:12).
 - When **Paul** came to Athens, Luke records his spirit was “provoked” within him about the idolatry in Athens (Acts 17:16). Up until then, his ministry had been broad—debate the gospel, build up the churches everywhere—but the Spirit later narrowed the focus of his ministry.
 - Throughout our lives **we** (at times) experience a “holy discontent” about a particular situation or the pressing in of a specific promise of God to our context. This is often the Spirit’s invitation to pursue a particular ministry.

- THE HOLY SPIRIT...WITH YOU, IN YOU, ON YOU!

- “On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, “Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! **Anyone who believes** in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” (When he said “living water,” he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given **to everyone believing in him.** But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)” (John 7:37–39 NLT-SE)
- At that moment when you make the decision to believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit is **with** you, leading you to the cross and says, “That’s Jesus! You have a choice. Do you believe Jesus is who he says he is?”



- If you say “yes” and believe in Jesus by faith, the Holy Spirit comes to live **in** you.
- If people are going to meet Jesus, the Holy Spirit needs to get **on** you. When he comes on you, power begins to flow through you (Acts 1:8). This is what we call the anointing and baptism of the Holy Spirit.