



The Holy Spirit will be with you and in you

John 20:19-23

Acts 2:1-21

various other NT passages

[based on the sermon presented on 28.5.23 – available on the [church app](#) or at <https://lwac.org.au/sermons>]

KEY IDEAS

1. Jesus imparted the Holy Spirit to the disciples in the upper room after his resurrection
2. The Holy Spirit descended on all the early believers at Pentecost, 50 days after Passover and Jesus' resurrection.
3. The giving of the Holy Spirit by Jesus, in the upper room and at Pentecost, indicates the old covenant was fulfilled and the new covenant, through the person and work of Jesus Christ, has been inaugurated.
4. The Holy Spirit has several functions or roles in the life of a Christian, as we will explore below.

CONNECT

- One common theme of the verses we will study below is that the Holy Spirit is our helper; he is given to us by God the Father and by Jesus to be our helper, transforming us, empowering, and enabling us to live the Christian life. Sometimes this Holy Spirit help comes to us through people who are led by the Holy Spirit to assist us. Think of one person who has been especially used by the Holy Spirit in your life. Share about this as you are able.

STUDY

Read Romans 5:5

- This verse indicates that the Holy Spirit is the agent or the vehicle for God's love to be poured into our hearts.
- How do you know God loves you? Identify at least two or three ways in which you recognize God's love for you.
- Do you find it easy or difficult to accept God's love for you? With all of your brokenness and secrets, do you find it hard to believe a holy God could still love you completely and unconditionally?

Read Romans 8:14-17

- These verses teach that we have received the Spirit of sonship (or daughtership) and are children of God, heirs of God even. We are God's children because we have been given his Spirit within us, and he only gives his Spirit to his children.
- One of the many benefits of having the Spirit of God within us and being a child of God is that we are no longer slaves to fear. What fears can we now let go of, fears that the world is preoccupied with, since we have the Holy Spirit living within?
- What other benefits or blessings accrue to us from our status as children of God due to the Holy Spirit living within us?

Read Romans 8:25-27

- These verses teach that the Holy Spirit helps us in our weaknesses, particularly that of interceding for us when we do not know what to pray for.
- Have you ever been so overwhelmed by a situation or circumstances that you did not even know what to pray for or how to pray? Did you feel the Spirit's presence and intercession on your behalf? Share about this as you are able.
- Does knowing that the Holy Spirit intercedes for you before God the Father bring you comfort and assurance? If it hasn't, how can you begin to enjoy the peace which comes from knowing the Spirit intercedes for you? What do you need to do to live in this truth?

Read I Corinthians 12:4-11

- These verses teach that the Holy Spirit gives every Christian one or more spiritual gifts for ministering to the body, for, as Paul puts it, "the common good."

- Acknowledging that this list is not exhaustive and that Paul also lists other gifts in Romans 12:6-8 and Ephesians 4:11, do you know which spiritual gifts the Holy Spirit has given you?
- If so, how did you come to discover this? Have you begun to use them for ministry or serving in some way?
- If not, what are some ways you could begin to discover which gift the Holy Spirit has given you?
- How does it make you feel to know that the spiritual gifts you possess were specifically chosen for you by the Holy Spirit (12:11)?

Read 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

- These verses teach that the Holy Spirit brings freedom, freedom from sin and freedom to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.
- When Paul writes that we are “being transformed” the verb he uses implies a continuous process. In what ways or areas is the Holy Spirit continuing to transform you? Share about this as you are able.
- Does this work of the Holy Spirit in transforming us mean we have no role to play? Consider Romans 12:1-2 which also addresses this topic of transformation. What role do we and our power of choice and our self-discipline play in our transformation?
- Check out verses such as 2 Cor 7:1, Hebrews 12:4, 1 Peter 1:13-15. In what way is our transformation a cooperative work between us and the Holy Spirit?

Read Galatians 5:22-23

- Do you see evidence of the fruit of the Spirit growing or increasing in your life? Share about this as you are able.
- If you would like to experience or exhibit more of the fruit of the Spirit in your life, what do you need to do? What things can you do to enrich the soil of your life so that the Holy Spirit can produce greater fruit in and through you?

APPLY

- Every day this coming week, thank God in prayer for the role and activity of the Holy Spirit in your life, and pray to the Holy Spirit that he would continue his work of intercession for us, transformation in us, and operating his gifts through us.
- Identify one specific fruit of the Spirit from Gal 5:22-23 which you would like to cultivate in your life. Make this a matter of prayer each day this week.
- Which other aspect of this study has struck you the most and why? What are you going to do as a result ?
- Identify one or more truths from this study which speak to and can be applied in your life.
 - 1.
 - 2.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH AND FOR ONE ANOTHER

- According to need.