

J.J.

THE HOLY SPIRIT
John 14:16-17; 2 Timothy 1:7

John 14: 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

2 Timothy 1: 7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

PRAY

INTRODUCTION:

Today, we will preach about the Holy Spirit. By God's grace, this sermon is going to be jam-packed. It's just like going to a Filipino party and your plate is going to be full of goodies. The reason why we're preaching about the Holy Spirit is because some of you have graduated and are starting a new chapter in your life. Some of you are pulling up your roots and will be transferring to another province. There will be a lot of voices in your life trying to influence you but if you really want to have the best guidance, or helper or counsel or best friend – it is the Holy Spirit Himself.

For the past few days, a lot of us have been following these billionaires and millionaires inside the Titan by Ocean Gate. We all know what happened...there was an implosion. (Show video) Implosion happens fast almost without warning. It's like somebody suddenly crushed a tin can.

But the people inside did not die by implosion. They died of hubris (excessive pride and self-confidence) Why? It's because a lot of people have already been telling the CEO and maker of this sub that his materials weren't right, there's no proper testing, there's no proper certifications and etc. But he did not listen.

Now a lot of people are like that and some Christians live like that. They think they can do it on their own. They think... ah, nothing is happening to me and then all of a sudden because of their hubris, everything implodes.

The tragedy could have been prevented, if they have listened.

In our lives also, there are heartaches in our live that could have been prevented if we have listened to the Holy Spirit. This is the reason why, our Lord in some of His teachings would say,

Matthew 11:15 He who has ears, let him hear.

Now that's the job of the Holy Spirit in our lives

Now, let's look at how Jesus called the Holy Spirit.

John 14: 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper,

NIV – Counselor KJV – Comforter NASB – Helper NLT – Advocate – one who supports or defends you; The Message - Friend

Etymology : Greek word “Parakletos” (n)

Verb “para kaleo”

Para - to walk closely by your side

Kaleo – to call or to urge

All of us wants someone who will

1. Encourage us when we are doubting or when we are down and say, “Go on” Don’t worry, I’m with you.
2. Counsel you or Guide you in your decision making or in situations that you need help.
3. Comfort you when you are suffering or in sorrow.

The Holy Spirit even if you don’t see Him is the One who walks closely with you to call you, encourage you, counsel you, comfort you, guide you

Now if you are a Christian, it means that Holy Spirit is in you.

Romans 8: 9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

There are two questions that might come into your mind now after reading this

1. How can I have the Holy Spirit in me?
2. How do I know the Holy Spirit is in me?

**Before we talk about that, we have to know first
WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

a.) The Holy Spirit is God – He is the third person in the Trinity

John 14:16 And I (God the Son) will ask the Father (God the Father), and he will give you another Counselor (God the Holy Spirit) to be with you forever—

The Holy Spirit is God.

Biblical Proof : Ananias and Sapphira were Christians who sold their land and pretended that they gave everything to the church. Peter with the power of the Holy Spirit, knew that they lied. Look at what Peter said in verse 3

Acts 5 : 3 Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?

And then in verse 4, Peter says :

4b... You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”

It shows that when Ananias lied to the Holy Spirit, he lied to God.

b.) The Holy Spirit is spirit – meaning we cannot see Him.

John 14: 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

Etymology : “Spirit” – greek word “pneuma” (breathe)

John 14:17 ...But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

It’s because He lives in us.

So the question again is :

1. How can I have the Holy Spirit in me?
2. How do I know the Holy Spirit is in me?

Let’s look first at what happens when the Holy Spirit is in you?

2 Timothy 1: 7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Now let me tell you this story first :

A young missionary, Herbert Jackson, was given a car to help him in his work. The car was a major asset, but it had one difficulty—it would not start without a push or a jump-start. Jackson devised a system to cope with the car’s inability to start. When he was ready to leave his home, he went to a nearby school and asked permission to bring some of the children out of class to help him push-start his car.

Throughout the day, he was careful to always park on a hill or to leave his engine running when he stopped for short visits. For two years the young missionary used what he believed was an ingenious method to enable him to use the car.

When poor health forced the Jackson family to leave the field, a new missionary arrived to lead the mission. When Jackson explained to the new missionary his methods for starting the car, the young man opened the hood and began inspecting. “Why, Dr. Jackson,” he interrupted, “I believe the only trouble is the loose cable.” He gave the cable a twist, pushed the switch, and the engine roared to life.

For two years, Dr. Jackson had used his own devices and endured needless trouble. The power to start the car was there all the time—it only needed to be connected.

Source: Living Beyond Your Capacity, Paul Chappell

The reason why I’m telling this story is because a lot of Christians are living in fear, worry, no victory in their lives, relationships being broken, lives that have no direction – why? IT’S BECAUSE AGAIN THEY ARE NOT CONNECTED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

What happens when you are depending and using the strength of the Holy Spirit?

7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

- **SPIRIT OF POWER**

Etymology : power “dunamis” this is where we get the word “dynamite” but the real meaning of this is dynamic power. (It means it’s effective power)

Let me explain through an illustration :

In building roads, sometimes workers will use dynamite to blast out maintains that are in the way. If you live in Brampton and pass through 410, you know the traffic right now because of the construction. One time, I was seeing this man using a jackhammer to take away this big cement. I told myself, this will take days. But day after day, he was creating progress until one day, the cement was already gone. It’s because the man used a jackhammer. The Holy Spirit is the jackhammer that chips away the hardness of a person’s heart or sometimes He is the dynamite that can blast out mountains so they can build a road.

Application : You might have bad attitudes or sin that doesn’t glorify God. When you depend on the Holy Spirit, He can work in your life like a jackhammer, slowly chipping away that bad habit or sometimes He works like a dynamite, blasting away that habitual sin or bad attitude in your life. Either way, you are being changed.

That’s why some people will ask, how do you know if a person is being controlled by the Spirit? A changed life.

Example : Before we are full of fear, now we are full of faith. Before we are full of hate, now we are full of love. Before we are full of disharmony, now you are full of peace.

You might ask...Pastor, how can I have this power from the Holy Spirit?

Ephesians 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

I know what shared this with you before.

WHAT FILLS YOU CONTROLS YOU.

- **SPIRIT OF LOVE**

7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Jesus said in *John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*

WHAT KIND OF LOVE IS THIS? LET’S LOOK AT THE LORD. That even though he was spat upon, insulted, slapped, flogged, and then nailed on the cross, he still said to His Father, *“Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.”*

He even said *in Luke 6:27-29 "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them*

This can only be done when we depend on the Holy Spirit.

Now again, if your life is full of the Holy Spirit, you will see its fruit... and what is the fruit?

Galatians 5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control;

Now if we don't see this in our life.. you have no love, no joy, no patience, no kindness and etc. or in our relationships, then something else or someone else is controlling your life.

- **SPIRIT OF SELF-CONTROL**

7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

I have learned through God's Word that self-control doesn't come from self. It comes from the Holy Spirit. *God gave us a spiritself control.*

The fruit of the Holy Spirit is self-control.

Galatians 5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control;

WHAT IS SELF-CONTROL?

The King James Version says

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Etymology : sophronizmos "sound mind" coming from two words, which means save your mind

Important: Self-control will come from your mind. **What gets us into trouble is we let our emotions dictate our actions.** That's the time we act like animals. When we just let our initial instincts, emotion lead us. (Remember our lesson of carrying your cross?)

Quote : "How dangerous a master human emotion is." Watchman Nee

For example : You get angry and you let your rage or anger dictate your action, that puts you into trouble. But if you have a "sound mind", you will be thinking, "papatulan" ko ba ito or sayang lang oras ko." **Or you get worried** and so you panic, so now you are letting worry instead of a sound mind dictating your attitude the whole day or your actions.

Important Illustration : Sometimes, when somebody hurts me, I am tempted to react according to how I feel. But I thank God that He will remind me... "Choose love." So I say loudly, "I choose to love". I'm not discounting my emotions but my sound mind can choose my course of action. And most of the time, the emotions follow.

Remember, timidity, fear and cowardice doesn't come from a sound mind. Most of the time it comes from your emotions. Don't let it dictate your actions.

Now all of these is possible when the Holy Spirit is in us.

FINALLY, NOW LET'S ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

1. How can I have the Holy Spirit in me?
2. How do I know the Holy Spirit is in me? + a Bonus question

How can I have the Holy Spirit in me?

John 7: 37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. **38** Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." **39** By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

The promise of Jesus Christ that whoever believes in Him, on who He is on what He did on the cross, *streams of living water will flow from within him*

What does streams of living water mean? It shows refreshment. It shows comfort. It shows peace. It means life.

When we believe in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit goes in us and when we rely on Him and always call on Him, He will refresh us, He will give us comfort, He will give us peace.

That's why *Ephesians 1:13* In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

If you want the Holy Spirit in you, you only need to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Then the Holy Spirit goes into your heart.

How do I know the Holy Spirit is in me?

Romans 8: 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Illustration : I was watching a Pandora commercial where they featured six mothers with the six very young children. They blindfolded each kid and the objective is they need to identify who their mom is while blindfolded. All of the kids knew who their mom was even if they were blindfolded.

In short, you will know the Holy Spirit is in you because you have a special relationship with the Father. You know who your Father is.

Romans 8 : 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

Even Jesus said,

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me

But still you might ask how? Let me tell you this story :

The story is told about a little boy who was flying a kite. It was a windy day, and the kite kept going higher and higher. Finally it got so high that it was out of sight. A man passed by and saw the little boy holding onto the string. The man could not see the kite, and he asked the boy, "How do you even know you have a kite up there?" The boy replied, "Because I can feel it."

First, you need to ask,

"Have I really believed in Jesus Christ as my only Lord and Saviour?"

Second, once you believe,

You just know that the Holy Spirit is in you because there's a tug in your heart always that's calling you, tugging in your heart, to always follow and trust in Jesus Christ no matter what the circumstance is in your life.

Bonus Question : How do I know it's coming from the Holy Spirit?

1. It Aligns with Scriptures.

The Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible. He will not contradict Himself.

The Bible says that God is unchanging. He is the Spirit of truth. Whatever He wrote in His Word that is perfect, true and good.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2 Peter 1:21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2. It produces the fruit of the Spirit.

2 Timothy 1: 7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Galatians 5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control;

If there is fear, that's not from the Spirit.

If there is uncertainty, that's not from the Spirit.

On the contrary, if there is peace even in the midst of a chaotic or unsure situation, then that is from the Spirit.

If there is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control in a decision, then that's a sign it's from the Spirit.

3. It glorifies the Son.

John 16: 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.

Illustration : In EDSA, there are so many billboards. At night, I can read what's on the billboard because of the spotlight on the billboard. I did not notice the spotlight but I noticed what was on the billboard because of the spotlight. That spotlight is the Holy Spirit! The Spirit doesn't call attention to Himself.

SUMMONS

Now that we know these things what do we need to do?

In the world of technology there is a new development called Hyper Sonic Sound (HSS). The inventor, Elwood "Woody" Norris, has engineered sound waves to travel like a laser beam for about 150 yards (that's 450 ft...around 5 basketball courts). This allows sounds to be heard by a person in a particular place but not by those immediately around them. You could be listening to music or specific instructions while those standing next to you would be left in total silence. If you move out of the tightly formed path of these unique sound waves you too will be unaware of any noise.

Just like HSS, we Christians have our own HSS (Holy Spirit's Supervision). We need to make sure our lives are aligned with Him. By listening and obeying His Word. Once we have that, I tell you, He will give you the wisdom you need if you ask Him.

James 1: 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

S.G.D.