

## **The Work of the Holy Spirit:**

**Let's look at some passages to see what work the Spirit has done throughout the Bible.**

### **The Birth of Jesus:**

Matt. 1:20 –

Luke 1:35

### **The Ministry of Christ:**

Matt. 12:28

Luke 4:1

Luke 4:14-15

Luke 4:18

Luke 6:27 -?

Luke 10:21- Rejoiced in the Spirit

Acts 10:38

Romans 1:4

Romans 8:11

### **Creation of the World**

Genesis 1;1-2 – “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters”.

The Hebrew word translated as “Spirit” here is Ruach, which also can mean “breath”. The Ruach Elohim, “The Breath of the Almighty” or the breath of “God”. The Hebrew word Elohim is a plural form.

### **Inspiration of Scripture**

Second Timothy 3:16 tells us, “*All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness*”. The Greek word behind this phrase is (theopneustos), which means “God-breathed.”

Peter affirms this view, writing, “*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 Peter 1:21).

### **Comforter / Counselor / Advocate:**

(Isaiah 11:2; John 14:16; 15:26; 16:7) All three words are translations of the Greek parakletos, from which we get “Paraclete,” another name for the Spirit. When Jesus went away, His disciples were greatly distressed because they had lost His comforting presence. But He promised to send the Spirit to comfort, console, and guide those who belong to Christ. The Spirit also “bears witness” with our spirits that we belong to Him and thereby assures us of salvation.

**Convicts believers of sin:**

(John 16:7-15) The Spirit applies the truths of God to men's own minds in order to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners. He does this through the conviction in our hearts that we are not worthy to stand before a holy God, that we need His righteousness, and that judgment is certain and will come to all men one day. Those who deny these truths rebel against the conviction of the Spirit.

**Deposit / Seal / Earnest:**

(2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:13-14) The Holy Spirit is God's seal on His people, His claim on us as His very own. The gift of the Spirit to believers is a down payment on our heavenly inheritance, which Christ has promised us and secured for us at the cross. It is because the Spirit has sealed us that we are assured of our salvation.

**Revealer / Spirit of Truth:**

(John 14:17; 16:13; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16) Jesus promised that, after the resurrection, the Holy Spirit would come to "guide you into all truth." Because of the Spirit in our hearts, we are able to understand truth, especially in spiritual matters, in a way that non-Christians cannot. In fact, the truth the Spirit reveals to us is "foolishness" to them, and they cannot understand it. But we have the mind of Christ in the Person of His Spirit within us.

**Interceded for us:**

(Romans 8:26-27). One of the most encouraging and comforting aspects of the Holy Spirit is His ministry of intercession on behalf of those He inhabits. Because we often don't know what or how to pray when we approach God, the Spirit intercedes and prays for us. He intercedes for us "with wordless groans," so that when we are oppressed and overwhelmed by trials and the cares of life, He comes alongside to lend assistance as He sustains us before the throne of grace.

**Gifts of the Spirit:**

I Corinthians 12:4-11

Romans 12:6-8

Eph. 4: 7-13

Isaiah 11: 2-3

The phrase "Spirit of God" is found 24 times in the Bible.

**Week # 2 - Discussion Questions:**

1. In John 16:7 – Jesus tells the disciples that it is an advantage to them that He goes away. How is it an advantage to them? Is having the Holy Spirit better than walking and talking with Jesus in His physical bodily form? If so, how is having the Holy Spirit better?
2. Based on what we have read tonight – what are your insights of the Holy Spirit and were any surprising or new to you? Which ones are you most grateful for?
3. In John 14:16-17 – The Holy Spirit is described as our “Helper” or “Comforter”. Have you ever experienced the “help” or “Comfort” of the Holy Spirit – Please Explain.
4. Where else do you see the Holy Spirit in your life?
5. What gifts of the Holy Spirit do you have? And what can you offer Holy Cross?