The Holy Spirit

One On One Resource



The purpose of this study is to help you better understand the Holy Spirit and His role in interacting with us. This study is geared towards His personality, interaction with us, and the Fruits of Spirit, rather than the Gifts of the Spirit.

1. When is the first time that we hear about the Holy Spirit in the Bible?

In the Creation story.

2. Read Genesis 1:2. What is the Holy Spirit's role in Creation?

He carried out what the Father spoke.

The Hebrew word for "Spirit" is *Ruach Elohim* which means "wind or breath of God." This *ruach* could mean a wind over the earth, but the word for "hovering" in this verse implies a physical thing looking over another thing, like a momma bird over its eggs. So, the "wind" is a physical thing. That is why it gets translated to Spirit of God.

This little Hebrew lesson is important, because it shows the character of the Holy Spirit as a "momma bird" who protects, nurtures, keeps us safe, and is crucial for growth.

Keep this image of the Holy Spirit as a momma bird in the back of your mind as we move on.

3. What is the role of a "momma bird"?

Protects, nurtures, gives life, keeps safe, trains to fly, crucial for growth and life.

a. Are any of these roles surprising to you?

b. How does hearing this analogy impact your view of the Holy Spirit?

Let's look at how Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit:

4. Read John 16:7: How does Jesus talk about the Holy Spirit here?

It is to the advantage of the disciples to have the Holy Spirit more than Jesus.

5. Why do you think that Jesus would say this?

The role of the Holy Spirit is to guide, counsel, and protect everyone. Once Jesus dies, the Holy Spirit can go from coming on people only in special circumstances in the Old Testament to residing in all of us all the time.

John 16:7-15, John 14:26, and John 15:26 describe the Holy Spirit as a Counselor, Guide, Teacher, Comforter, Convictor.

6. What does the Holy Spirit look like after Jesus ascends into heaven?

a. Gifts of the Spirit: Acts 1-2, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (see other XA studies for more on these).

b. Fruit of the Spirit: Read Galatians 5:22-23.

If someone is a Christian, then these things now reside in us all the time. As we allow more of the Holy Spirit to grow in us, they will blossom in us like fruit that all people can see! They will be our nature and we will become more Christ-like.



How does God grow these in us? How would you like to see Him grow these in you?

c. Read John 15:26.

The Holy Spirit keeps us following Christ and points us back to Christ in how we are supposed to live.

Conclusion:

The role of the Holy Spirit from Creation has always been to be a "momma bird" who guides us to God the Father, protects us from straying from Him, directs us in how to act, and grows the Fruit of the Spirit in us so we become Christ-like. The Holy Spirit changes the way we think and helps us follow Christ and obey God on a daily basis.

Final Questions:

- How does all this impact your understanding of the Holy Spirit?
- How would you like to experience the Holy Spirit more personally? What do you need to do for this to happen?