WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A study on the Holy Spirit in John 14&16



In the Beginning . . .

Genesis 1:1-2 > at Creation, the beginning of the world as we know it.

Matthew 3:16-17 > at the Baptism of Jesus, the beginning of Jesus' ministry > the Kingdom of God is here.

Acts 2 > at the day of Pentecost, the beginning of the Church, the body of Christ.

What/Who is the Holy Spirit?

John 14: I'm leaving - I want you to be OK (I love you) - if you believe in me you'll do even greater things - here's the plan >

v15 Hang onto the truth I've shared with you (my commandments).

v16 I'll send you an Advocate (Helper, Comforter, Paraclete, 'Alongsider') who'll always be there.

What has He come to do?

v17+26 He leads you into all Truth (Jesus) + teach you everything you need to know to live right.

John 16:

v7 It's actually to your Advantage that I go so that He can come.

- My Spirit (presence) can Help you more intimately, always, everywhere.
- He will glorify me (explain, clarify, remind, emphasize) Guide you in the Truth that's been spoken.
 - You don't need more Truth (Jesus spoke/revealed the Truth) > you need to understand + live the Truth that's been spoken/revealed.

v13-15 What the Holy Spirit says is from me (Jesus) so you can trust it.

v8 How will the Holy Spirit guide us?

- Convict (convince) the world of sin + God's righteousness.
 - Convince us of truth vs. lies > right vs. broken > guide us into truth.
 - I want you to know this in your heart, to see clearly so you can respond.

v9 Our struggle (THE battle of our lives)

- The World's Sin (missing the mark, off target, lost) is it's disbelief. 'Refuses to believe in Jesus'.
 - We refuse to believe in Jesus instead we believe in Ourselves (Rom 1:19-32).
 - This leads to all brokenness, dysfunction, destruction, death (Jn 10:9-10, Gal 5:16-23)
 - o Trusting in Him leads to Truth + Life. Rich, satisfying, life to the Full (John 10:10, 14:6)

The fight for our Trust

It makes a ton of sense that the enemy of our souls (Satan) who has come to steal, kill + destroy - would have as his main objective to discredit, distort our vision of + create distrust in God, Jesus + maybe especially the Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit is who Jesus says He is (the personal presence of God with us now to guide us into all truth - to help us see clearly the difference between what's deeply right + hopelessly broken) the best tactic our enemy could employ would be to convince us to trust in ourselves rather than that Guide.

Questions for Clarity:

- 1. What's been your view, understanding or general feeling about the Holy Spirit?
 - a. Anyone have a weird, spooky, uncomfortable vibe about the Holy Spirit?
 - b. Does our current view/feeling draw us closer or push us away from the H.S.?
- 2. What's our opinion/view/feeling about the Holy Spirit based on?
 - a. Is it the name? The uncertainty about who the H.S. is? People's actions in the name of the Holy Spirit?
 - b. Can you see a plot/plan to distort & create distrust in the Guide (H.S.)

Application > Check out Galatians 5:16-26 > The Spirit's help with our fight for right desires.

- How do we 'walk by the Spirit' or 'let the Holy Spirit guide our lives'?
 - What's the alternative?
 - What are some obstacles keeping us from walking by the Spirit?

- What's meant by "flesh" here?
 - Have you felt a fight inside you between flesh + Spirit?
 - Why does it seem easier to assist (walk by) the flesh instead of the Spirit?
 - Is there anything we can do to assist (walk by) the Spirit more often?
- Finish by checking out Galatians 6:8-10
 - Talk about "not growing weary" and pray together for strength + about the battle for trust taking place inside us.

MORE RESOURCES:

Apps for Bible Study:

YouVersion - Bible App with different translations & reading plans available

<u>Blue Letter Bible</u> - Original Language insight - great for word studies

<u>Enduring Word</u> - verse by verse Commentary + insight

Video

The Bible Project Holy Spirit Video - concise, Biblical, overview of the Holy Spirit

Book

Forgotten God, Francis Chan

Bible

Romans 8:1-17