

“The Gift of the Holy Spirit”

John 14:15-19

SOME FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The HS is given to believers by the Father through the Son. v.16

-You can't have the HS apart from having Jesus Christ.

-‘I'm not a follower of Jesus Christ but I do have God's Spirit.’ – not Biblical.

- Believers receive the HS when we are born again.
- It is actually the HS who makes us born again.
 - NOT: I believe, then God gives me the HS.
 - But: God gives me the HS, then I believe.

2. The HS is a person. v.17 “him”

- When Jesus and the disciples speak of the HS they use personal pronouns; *he* and *him*. Not “it”.
- Many examples of this in the New Testament.
 - John 16:8: And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.

3. The HS is frequently called the Spirit of truth. v.17

- John 4:24: God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.
- John 16:13: When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth...
- 1 John 5:6: And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

4. The HS confirms to us that we are adopted. v.18

- I will not leave you as orphans.
- Consider the implications of what Jesus is saying...
 - Without the HS, we are un-adopted. WITH the HS we have a Father.
 - We have a human tendency toward believing we have been abandoned.
- Parallel with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Ref. John 8:29

5. The HS is called the Helper. v.25-26

- Gk. *paraclete* Ref. John 15:26; 16:7
- “Advocate” conveys legal dynamic; one having more power, authority working on my behalf
- “Comforter” conveys encouragement, consoling
- “Counselor” conveys wisdom, guidance

APPLICATIONS

1. Asking the Father to give us the Holy Spirit. Luke 11:13

- Comparison: fathers/parents and children... How much more?

→ Implication: we ought to be asking God for the Holy Spirit.

2. The Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts to believers.

- We are to earnestly desire these gifts.
 - 1 Cor 12:31: But earnestly desire the higher gifts.
 - 1 Cor 14:1: Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.
 - 1 Cor 14:39: So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy
- Why the gifts? Why should we earnestly desire them?
 - 1 Cor 14:12: So with yourselves, since you are eager [zealous] for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.
- Edification. “edify”
- Eager = zealous, enthusiast “a Holy Spirit enthusiast”

The year ahead... a year of asking God the Father for the Holy Spirit. John 7:37-38

“For Christians, the greatest happiness in this life is knowing that our greatest happiness is not in this life. While the world keeps trying to console itself that everything is going to be OK, we know that for those who are in Christ everything is not just going to be OK—everything is finally going to be perfect.” –Burk Parsons