

**Xenos Christian Fellowship
Christian Principles Unit 2**

Dynamics of Spiritual Growth

Week 7: Pneumatology - The Study of the Holy Spirit

Introduction

Identity of the Holy Spirit

1. The Holy Spirit is a Person, not a force or a part of God.

He has the elements of personality

•

(1 Cor. 2:10,11) For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. (11) For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

•

(Eph. 4:30) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

•

(1 Cor. 12:11) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

He is grouped with other known persons

(Matt. 28:19) "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

(2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Pet. 1:2; Acts 2:33,38; Gal. 4:6; 2 Cor. 1:21,22).

The use of the personal pronoun "he" (as opposed to "it") indicates personhood (Jn. 16:13,14).

(John 16:13,14) "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. (14) He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you."

2. The Holy Spirit is fully God.

He possesses divine attributes

•

(1 Cor. 2:11,12) For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. (12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God.

•

(Ps. 139:7) Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

He is equated with God

(2 Cor. 3:17) Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

(Acts 5:3,4) But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back some of the price of the land? (4) "While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God."

Contrasting the Holy Spirit's Work in Old vs. New Covenant

1. The Holy Spirit was *with* rather than *in* God's people.

(Ezek. 36:27) And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

(John 14:17) . . . that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. . . .

2. His involvement was *selective*, not *universal*.

(Joel 2:28) 'And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

(1 Cor. 12:13*) For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

(Rom. 8:9) However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

3. His involvement was *temporary*, not *permanent*.

(1 Sam. 16:14) Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.

(Psa. 51:11) Do not cast me away from Thy presence, And do not take Thy Holy Spirit from me.

(John 14:16) "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;

In Summary:

Old Covenant	New Covenant
1.	
2.	
3.	

The redemptive work of Christ made it possible for the Holy Spirit to become more actively involved among God's people.

(John 7:37-39) Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. (38) He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.'" (39) But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

(See John 12:23,24)

The Holy Spirit's Work in Christ

- The Holy Spirit was active in the virgin conception of Christ (Lk. 1:35; Mt. 1:20).
- He presumably indwelt Jesus throughout his whole life.

Jesus normally ministered by the power of the Holy Spirit rather than by exercising his own divine attributes (Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38).

He was also enabled by the Holy Spirit to live a sinless life, which qualified him to be our sacrificial substitute (Heb. 9:14).

Note: The Spirit "came upon" Jesus at his baptism (Mt. 3:16) to identify him as God's Messiah (Jn. 1:33).

- The Holy Spirit was active also in Jesus' resurrection (Rom. 1:4).

The Holy Spirit's Work in the New Covenant

(John 14:12) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to the Father.

(John 16:7) "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

(2 Cor. 5:5) Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

The New Covenant ministries of the Holy Spirit are usually considered to be the following:

Prior to conversion, the Holy Spirit

1.

(John 16:8-11) "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; (9) concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; (10) and concerning righteousness,

because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; (11) and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

At the moment of conversion, the Holy Spirit permanently:

1.

(Titus 3:5) He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

2.

(Rom. 8:9) However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

3.

(1 Cor. 12:13*) For by one Spirit we were all **baptized into one body**, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

(Gal. 3:27) For all of you who were **baptized into Christ** have clothed yourselves with Christ.

4.

(Eph. 1:13,14*) In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were **sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise**, (14) who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

(Eph. 4:30) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed** for the day of redemption.

5.

(1 Cor. 12:6-11) 6 And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Eph. 4:7-12,16; 1 Pet. 4:10,11)

(1 Cor. 1:5-7) . . . that **in everything you were enriched in Him**, in all speech and all knowledge, (6) even as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed in you, (7) so that **you are not lacking in any gift**, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ . . .

Subsequent to conversion, the Holy Spirit continues to:

1.

(Rom. 8:15,16) For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" (16) **The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God . . .**

(Gal. 4:6) And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

(John 14:23) Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.**"

2.

(1 Cor. 2:12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God . . .

(Eph. 1:17-19) (I pray) that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. (18) I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, (19) and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might . . .

(Eph. 3:16-19) (I pray) that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man; (17) so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, (18) may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, (19) and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fulness of God.

3.

(Rom. 8:12-15) So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- (13) for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. (14) For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons

of God. (15) For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

(Gal 5:16-18) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. (17) For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. (18) But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

(Acts 8:28-38) And he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. (29) And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." (30) And when Philip had run up, he heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" (31) And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. (32) Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this: "HE WAS LED AS A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER; AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER IS SILENT, SO HE DOES NOT OPEN HIS MOUTH. (33) "IN HUMILIATION HIS JUDGMENT WAS TAKEN AWAY; WHO SHALL RELATE HIS GENERATION? FOR HIS LIFE IS REMOVED FROM THE EARTH." (34) And the eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself, or of someone else?" (35) And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. (36) And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" (37) And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." (38) And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he baptized him.

(Acts 16:6-10) And they passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; (7) and when they had come to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; (8) and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. (9) And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a certain man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." (10) And when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

4.

(Rom 8:4,11) . . . in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit . . . (11) But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you..

(Gal. 5:22,23) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (23) gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

(1 Cor. 2:3-5) And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. (4) And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, (5) that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

(2 Cor. 3:5,6) Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, (6) who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

(Col. 1:28,29) And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. (29) And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

(Acts 1:8) . . . but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

(2 Cor. 12:9,10) And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. (10) Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

5.

(Acts 9:31) So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and, going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.

(Acts 13:50-52) But the Jews aroused the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district . . . (52) And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

(Rom. 5:3-5) And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; (4) and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; (5) and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

(Rom. 15:13) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(2 Cor. 1:3-6) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; (4) who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (5) For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ. (6) But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer;

6.

(Rom. 8:26,27) And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; (27) and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Note: These ministries of the Holy Spirit are always available to all Christians, but they are contingent to our willingness to walk by, or be filled with, the Spirit.

Memory Verses

1 Cor. 12:13* - All Christians have been baptized into Christ and indwelt by the Holy Spirit

Eph. 1:13,14* - Christians normally are united with Christ at the moment they believe the gospel

Assignment

Read "Crisis and Process". Write a one paragraph summary and one paragraph on what was most helpful to you.

Exam Review Guide - Week #7

1. Be able to explain the key differences in the activity of the Holy Spirit under the Old Covenant and under the New Covenant (with/in; temporary/permanent; selective/universal), and the main reason for these differences (Christ's payment for our sins).
2. Be familiar with the ministries of the Holy Spirit in the non-Christian's life, at conversion, and in the Christian's life.
3. Be able to describe at least one ministry of the Holy Spirit which has particular impact on you and cite a biblical reference for it.