

Life Changes
The Holy Spirit and His Ministry to Us, through Us
October 8, 2009

A. Who He is:

1. A Person, showing intellect (1 Corinthians 2:10-15), will (1 Corinthians 12:11), and emotions (Ephesians 4:30; Galatians 5:22, 23).
2. He is God, a member of the Trinity (example in Matthew 28:18-20).
3. The One who reveals God's thoughts to us (2 Peter 1:20, 21).
4. Involved in creation (Genesis 1:1, 2) and the Incarnation (the conception of Jesus (Luke 1:26-45).
5. Giver of new spiritual life (John 3:1-8).
6. He glorifies (reveals and honors) the Son, who glorifies the Father, who glorifies the Son.
7. He is another *Paraclete*, "One called alongside," who convicts us and leads us into all truth (John 16:7-15).
8. He gives us power to live free from sin's dominance.

B. At the moment of salvation, He does many things on our behalf, including:

1. He comes to live within us (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16).
2. He baptizes us into the body of Christ, the church (1 Corinthians 12:13).
3. We become adopted members of God's family (Romans 8:14-16).
4. The Holy Spirit seals us in Christ (Ephesians 1:13,14; 4:30).

C. He continues to work in us, as we choose to yield to Him:

1. He seeks to make us more and more like Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:17, 18).
2. He gives us power to reveal God to our needy world, and to help us walk in victory over sin's influence (Acts 1:8; Ephesians 3:16).
3. Being filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18) is to yield to His gracious direction and empowering.

Misconceptions about what this Spirit-directed life might look like:

1. Rapid and automatic transformation.
2. I'll "arrive."
3. I'll feel different, or that something dramatic will take place.
4. There's a "formula" for this.

How can we be filled by the Holy Spirit? Simply: by faith.

A few things prepare our hearts:

1. We must want to be filled.
2. Confess any known sins (1 John 1:9).
3. Appropriate **by faith** what God wants to give us: the filling of His Spirit.

The **command** of Ephesians 5:18
and the **promise** of 1 John 5:14, 15.

The danger of "coasting" rather than "walking"

Learning to walk in the Spirit for the rest of our days.