

LESSON 13

Who Is the Holy Spirit? (Most Misunderstood Person of the Trinity)

5: The Holy Spirit

Executive Summary

The Holy Spirit is the most misunderstood Person of the Trinity — sometimes over-mystified as a force to be manipulated, sometimes diminished to an impersonal influence. Scripture is clear: He is a Person with mind, emotions, and will, and He is fully God, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son.

Key Terms

Holy Spirit	The divine Person who indwells, teaches, convicts, empowers, and forms believers into the likeness of Christ.
Personhood	The qualities of mind, will, emotion, relationship, and action that show the Holy Spirit is a divine Person.
Deity	The full divine nature; Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are truly and eternally God.
Trinity	The one true God eternally existing as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: one in essence, three in persons.

Key Verses

English Standard Version (ESV)

John 14:16-17

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Acts 5:3-4

3 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.”

Ephesians 4:30

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

Psalms 139:7-10

7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! 9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Application Questions

1. What do these verses show that the Holy Spirit can think, feel, and do?

2. Why is it important to know that the Holy Spirit is a Person and not an impersonal power?

3. What choices or attitudes in your life could grieve the Holy Spirit?

4. How can you show greater trust in the Holy Spirit's presence with you this week?
