

LESSON 14

What Does the Holy Spirit Actually Do?

5: The Holy Spirit

Executive Summary

The Spirit's ministry in the Old Testament was temporary and selective — empowering judges, prophets, and kings for specific tasks. But after Pentecost, the Spirit was poured out on all believers, permanently indwelling every Christian. He regenerates, seals, sanctifies, and empowers us for holy living and ministry.

Key Terms

Regeneration	The Holy Spirit's act of giving new spiritual life to a person who was dead in sin.
Indwelling	The permanent presence of the Holy Spirit within every person who belongs to Christ.
Sealing	The Spirit's mark of God's ownership and His guarantee that the believer's inheritance is secure.
Empowerment	The Holy Spirit's enabling presence for holy living, faithful service, and courageous witness.

Key Verses

English Standard Version (ESV)

Acts 2:1-4

1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Titus 3:5

5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Romans 8:9

9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

Application Questions

1. What does the Holy Spirit do for every person who believes in Christ?

2. What does it mean that the Holy Spirit lives permanently within every believer?

3. Where are you relying only on your own strength instead of asking the Spirit for help?

4. What act of obedience or service do you need the Holy Spirit to help you carry out?
