

LESSON 15

The Holy Spirit's Role in Your Spiritual Growth

5: The Holy Spirit

Executive Summary

The Holy Spirit's ongoing work in the believer is essential to spiritual growth. He convicts us of sin, sanctifies us over a lifetime, illuminates Scripture so we can understand it, and unites believers into one body. Walking in step with the Spirit is how we grow in Christlikeness.

Key Terms

Conviction	The Holy Spirit's work of exposing sin and pressing the conscience toward repentance and truth.
Sanctification	The lifelong work of God by which believers increasingly turn from sin and grow in Christlikeness.
Illumination	The Holy Spirit's work of helping believers understand and receive the meaning of Scripture.
Unity	The Spirit-created oneness of believers in Christ that is protected through truth, humility, and love.

Key Verses

English Standard Version (ESV)

John 16:8-11

8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Galatians 5:22-23

22 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 Corinthians 2:12-14

12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Ephesians 4:3-4

3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

Application Questions

1. What are four ways the Holy Spirit helps believers grow, according to the verses in this lesson?

2. When the Spirit shows you a sin, how should you respond?

3. Which fruit of the Spirit do you most need Him to grow in your life right now?

4. What can you ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand and obey as you read the Bible?
