



Does The Holy Spirit Matter? - Week 3

OVERVIEW

In this message of the series *Does It Matter?*, we will learn how the Holy Spirit works in our lives.

DISCUSSION

- What are some unique things you can't live without (besides food, clothes, and shelter)?

Without the Holy Spirit, we can't truly understand the Bible and live out our God-given purpose and potential. However, there are many who avoid discussing the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has been:

1. Ignored
2. Misunderstood - Many see Him as an "it" instead of a person. **John 16:13: "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."**
3. Resisted - When we repent and accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit immediately comes to live on the inside of us. However, we are to get refilled with the Holy Spirit over-an-over again throughout our Christian life, where we are endued with power. We don't get resaved, but we do get re-empowered.
 - What are some common reasons why people may resist discussing or engaging with the Holy Spirit, despite its crucial role in Christian life and empowerment?
 - How has the Holy Spirit impacted your life?
 - Why do you think it's important to get refilled with the Holy Spirit each day?

Four Ways the Holy Spirit Works in our Lives:

1. The Holy Spirit leads us into truth.
John 14:26: "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." The Holy Spirit also brings things to our remembrance.
 - Share a time when the Holy Spirit gave you a Scripture during a challenging season.

2. The Holy Spirit helps us in prayer.

Romans 8:26-27: *Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.* Even when we don't know what to pray for – if we look to the leading of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will help to give us the very thoughts and words to pray.

- How has the Holy Spirit helped your prayer life?

3. The Holy Spirit helps us to become more like Jesus.

Romans 8:29: *For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.* God's ultimate plan for us is that we spend eternity with Him in Heaven. Yet, after we come to Christ, God leaves us on the Earth to fulfill our purpose while we are on the Earth and to be conformed to the image of Christ. The Holy Spirit's role is to help us grow in the character of Jesus. The key to becoming more like Jesus is choosing to allow the Holy Spirit to live through you daily.

Galatians 5:22-23: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.* When you honor the Holy Spirit who lives in you, fruit will begin sprouting out of your life.

- How does the fruit of the Spirit become evident in our lives when we actively honor and allow the Holy Spirit to work within us?

4. The Holy Spirit gives us power to be a witness.

Acts 1:8: *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”* The Holy Spirit empowers you to be an effective witness in every place and on every assignment.

- How does the empowerment by the Holy Spirit for witnessing impact our ability to share our faith effectively?

LIFE CHALLENGE

Luke 11:10-13: *“For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone?...If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”* Ask God to refill you with His Spirit! Invite Him in every part of your life each day this week.

PRAY TOGETHER