

What does the Holy Spirit accomplish in a believer's life?

Paul in 2 Cor 3:5-6 tells us that, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as *being* from ourselves, but our sufficiency *is* from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

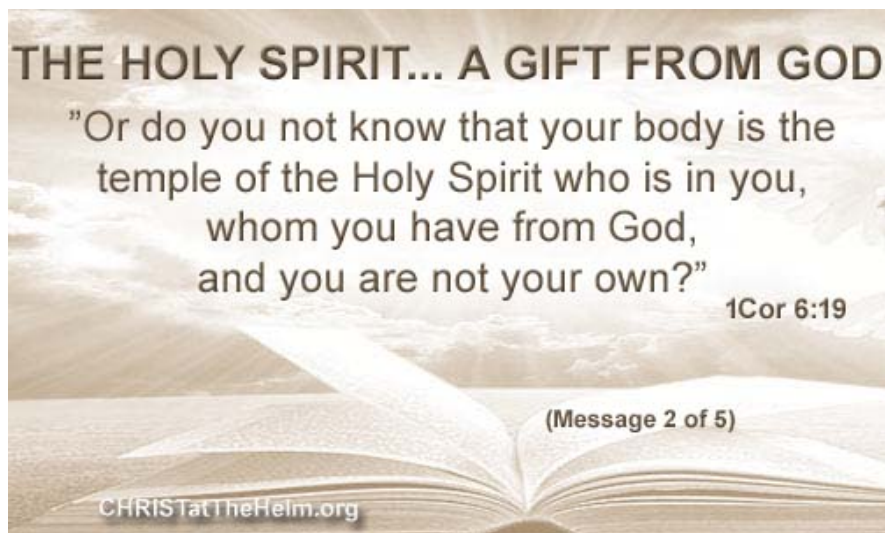
In other words, the Holy Spirit is the new life within believers to guide, inspire and lead us in the proper direction as we follow Christ.

Whose Spirit do we receive as believers? "And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit." (1Cor 15:45) Obviously, the Holy Spirit is the gift from God received by believers in Christ, the reason Jesus told Nicodemus he needed to be born again in order to inherit the Kingdom of God.

Titus 3:4-5 says, "But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit."

Simply said, we're saved by the grace extended by Christ for believing, and as a result receive a new life, the Holy Spirit, to guide and inspire us to know and follow Christ.

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Do we realize the great blessing bestowed upon those who believe and follow Christ?

Paul, in Eph 1:13-14 said, "In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in Whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."

What a powerful blessing from God, to have been sealed and redeemed; but notice, it is to be to "The praise of His glory." We carry within us the holy, righteous presence of the Holy Spirit, the reason we are enjoined to not grieve the Holy Spirit in Eph 4:30.

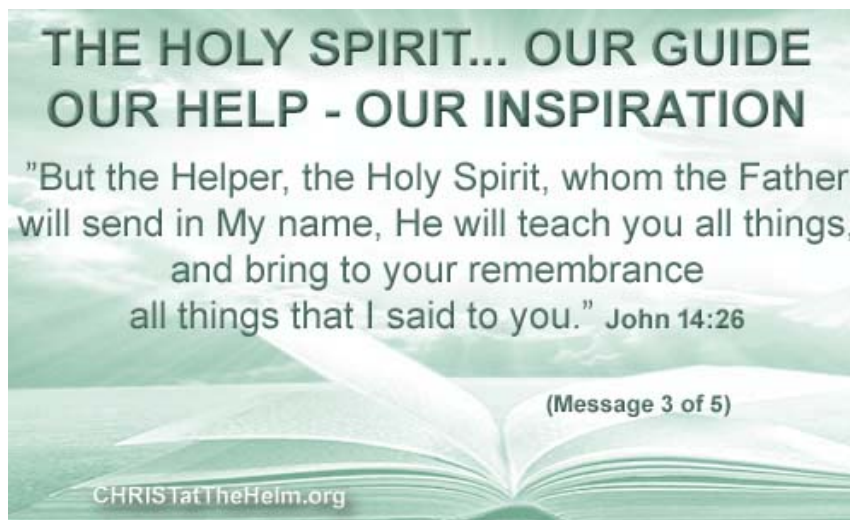
Paul in Rom 8:1-2 said, "*There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."

Finally, Acts 5:32 add, "We are His witnesses to these things, and so also *is* the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

The result? "Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" (Gal 4:6)

Are we intently focused to seek to honor God through all aspects of our lives?

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What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life?

Eze 36:26-27: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them."

Rom 15:13: "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Rom 8:26: "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."

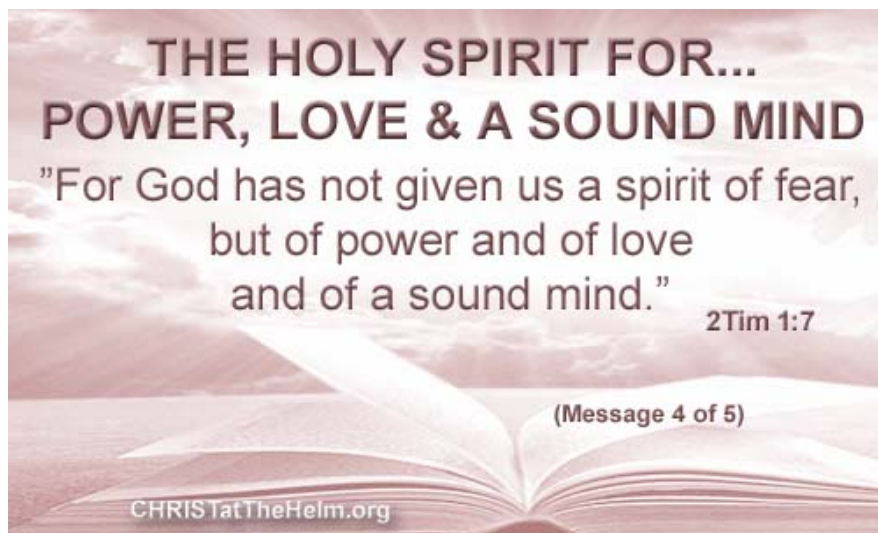
Acts 1:8: "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Mat 28:19: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

In essence, we can conclude that the Holy Spirit is given to believers for the purpose of being guided to follow Christ from the heart, receive discernment, and use this power from God to be His witnesses to a lost and dying world.

Are we in for the challenge?

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How powerful is the Holy Spirit in a believer's life?

2Cor 3:18: "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." In other words, as we commit and follow Christ through the study His Word, the Holy Spirit guides, inspires and empowers us to be transformed day by day to become more like Christ.

Paul in Rom 8:27 said, "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.*" Jesus in Mat 10:18-20 told us to never fear as in all situations, we will be given answers to whatever we should do or say.

How are we enabled through the Holy Spirit's power?

Rom 8:11: "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you." In essence, if we follow the Holy Spirit to be transformed into the likeness of Christ, we become His witnesses, His light shines through us and we glorify the Father in heaven.

Are we daily being transformed into the image of our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit?

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Do we realize that as believers, the Holy Spirit lives in us for the purpose of producing fruit in our lives?

Gal 5:16 tells us, "Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Truly, we're to reject the world's lusts, as it certainly doesn't honor God and insults the Spirit of Christ within us.

Paul in 1Cor 2:14 said, "The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned." Then we, as believers who have received the Spirit of Christ, should walk according to what the Holy Spirit speaks and inspires us through God's Word.

The reason Jesus said in John 16:12-14, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. 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. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you."

How is the fruit of the Spirit defined in God's Word? "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." (Gal 5:22-23)

How evident is the fruit of the Spirit produced in our lives?

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