

Sweet Holy Spirit

A. Introducing the Trinity- God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit [5 Min]

1. God exists as 3 distinct personalities- God the father- the source of all authority and power [Gen 1:1, John 3:16, Heb. 1:1], God the Son- the word of God [John 1:1&14, Heb. 1:1, John 17:1-3, John 17:21, Phil 2:5&6] and God the Holy Spirit- the power of God [1 Cor. 2:11, Gen 1:2].
2. The personalities in Godhead are in one accord [1John 5:7, John 17:21, Matt 28:19, Phil 2:5&6, Amos 3:3, 1 Cor. 14:33].
3. The three personalities in God have distinct personalities [traits] and functionalities [roles]

B. The Person of the Holy Spirit [5 Min]

1. The Holy Spirit is a divine being: a person, not a force or some physical quantity.
 - He has a voice [Rev 2:7, Acts 13:2, Heb. 3:7]
 - Will [1 Cor. 12:11, Acts 11:12]
 - Mind [1 Cor. 2:9-16]
 - Emotions [Eph4:30]
2. He chooses to manifest himself in diverse ways e.g.
 - Fire [Acts 2:1-8, 1Thess 5:19]]
 - Water [Isaiah 59:19, John 7:37-39]
 - Wind [Acts 2:4, John 3:8]
 - Earthquake [Acts 4:31, Acts 16:26]
 - Dove [Matt. 3:16]

C. The Anointing Upon/Within and the Baptism of the Holy Ghost [10 Min]

1. In the days of old [Old Testament], the Spirit of God came upon individuals for a specific purpose; for a specific and limited amount of time e.g Samson, Saul [Judges 14:19, 1Sam. 10:9, 1Sam. 16:14, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Luke 1:35, Isaiah 61:1].
2. God prophesied and promised of a time when there would be an outpouring of his Spirit on all flesh-mankind [Joel 2:28, John 7:38&39 John 3:34, 1 Cor. 6:19, Mark 16:7]. In this dispensation, the Spirit of God will be resident within man.
3. The new dispensation was ushered in on the day of Pentecost: a dramatic experience signifying the beginning of a new era. [Acts 2:1-4]
4. The Holy Ghost baptism is a significant event. It is not the same thing as the salvation experience. It is depicted by infilling of God's Spirit evidenced by speaking in new tongues. [Acts 19:1-6, Acts 8:14-17].

Benefits of the Holy Ghost Baptism [10 Min]

1. **Power:** a supernatural empowerment/enablement that comes from the Spirit of God. [Acts 1:8, Zech. 4:6, Eph. 1:19-20, Rom 8:11].
2. **Revelation:** an insight into God's divine plan & purpose, God-given ability to see the past, present or future. [1 Cor.2:9, John 16:13, Prov. 20:27]
3. **Comfort/ Assurance:** the assurance of God's presence in our life situations, bringing hope and strength in time of distress and loneliness.[John 15:26, John 16:7, John 14:16, Isaiah 28:11&12.]
4. **Spiritual Edification:** building spiritual strength and virtue in our inward being through interaction with the Spirit of God [Jude 1:20, 2 Cor. 3:18, Eph. 3:1-16, 1 Cor. 14:4.].

5. **Intercession:** praying according to God's will/spending time alone in God's presence. [Rom 8:26&27, Eph. 6:18, 1 Cor. 14:2&14].
6. **Instruction/Teaching/Understanding of Scripture:** we are promised that when the 'comforter' Comes, he will guide us into all truth. The Holy Spirit plays an integral part in our ability to understand the integral part in our ability to understand the inner workings of God's promises embedded in his word. [2 Peter 1:21, John 16:13, 1 John 2:20, Job 32:8].
7. **Conviction in Righteousness:** the Holy Spirit is holy. Therefore, he works with our conscience as a barometer to guide us out of sin into righteousness. When we fellowship with him consistently over time, God's divine nature is imparted into us. Also, by following the leading of the Holy Spirit, we are able to subdue the flesh and maintain a righteous lifestyle. [John 16:8, Rom. 8:4, Gal 5:16].
8. **Direction:** when we maintain intimacy with God, he promises to direct our paths according to his will which is good, acceptable and perfect. [Ps. 23:1, Acts 10:19-20, Acts 8:29, Acts 13:2].
9. **Witness/Confirmation:** the Holy Spirit bears witness with our Spirit concerning God's word, God's will and God's way. [Rom. 8:16, Rom. 9:1, Heb. 10: 15&16, John 15:26, Acts 5:32].
10. **Magnification/Praise:** the Holy Spirit helps us to magnify/worship God in a language beyond our human comprehension. Worship God in a language beyond our human comprehension. Worship/praise which comes directly from our hearts [Spirit] takes us to greater heights in his presence. [Acts 10:45&46, Eph. 5: 18&19, Col. 3:16, 1 Cor. 14:15].

How to Receive the Holy Spirit

1. **Laying-on of Hands:** this is a spiritual impartation carried out by a believer/disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ acting upon spiritual instruction. Acts 8:14-18, Acts 19: 1-6.
2. **Prayer of Faith:** God promises in his word to honour every request for the awesome gift of the Holy Spirit when we ask in faith. Luke 11:11-13, Heb. 11:6
3. **Outpouring of God's Spirit Activated by Faith:** whenever/wherever the word of God is shared [discussed or preached], there exists an anointing/power backing up his word. Many times, faith in the hearts of the hearers of the spoken word makes them legitimate recipients of the grace of God. Rom 10:17, Acts 10:44-48.
4. **Sovereign Manifestation of the Spirit of God:** at times, God chooses to manifest his grace/presence in a sovereign manner. In such cases, the time, place, people and manner of outpouring are not of our choosing. Acts 2:1-4, Acts 11:15, Joel 2:28, Acts 2: 17&18.