

ROOTED

THE SECRETS BEHIND SPIRITUAL GROWTH



THE SECRET OF THE SPIRIT.

The Holy Spirit can sometimes feel like the "black sheep" of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.) Many people are hesitant to even approach the subject of the Spirit, afraid snake handlers and Steve Martin from "Leap of Faith" are around the corner and ready to pounce.

However, when we fail to acknowledge the Holy Spirit (the person of God literally at work *within* us) we end up missing out on some of the deepest growth God has for us. The Holy Spirit is often referred to in Scripture as the "Advocate" or the "Helper." He lives in us and works through us, producing good things, giving us words to speak, helping us connect to God, and more. He even convicts us when we sin - which allows for repentance, forgiveness, and even more spiritual growth.

So how can we live in step with the Spirit?

We can start by inviting Him to impact our thoughts, words, and days. We can ask Him to guide our thoughts and actions. We can take time to stop and intentionally listen. We can begin to act on "hunches" and "feelings" when we feel we should reach out, show up, or pray for someone.

IN THE BIBLE.

John 14:16-17

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

John 15:26-27

“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. 27 And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

John 16:7-14

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 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.12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Galatians 5:22-25

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Romans 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

QUESTIONS.

Feel free to talk through some or all of these questions

- 1.) What makes the Holy Spirit different from the Father and the Son (all three persons of one God)?
- 2.) Based on the verses above, what are some things the Holy Spirit does?
- 3.) On Sunday, Pastor Adam talked about being led to text his pastor friend. Have you ever experienced a nudge from the Holy Spirit? What happened?
- 4.) How will you intentionally listen for the Holy Spirit this week?

TAKE TEN:

- How did you see God work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here? (in your life/circumstance)
- How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?