

Walking with the Spirit

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: Holiness Matters

Text: Galatians 5:16

The Holy Spirit is the single greatest help that the believer has in our life of holiness. God has given us the Holy Spirit to lead and counsel us into all **truth**. **John 16:5-11** Without the help of the Holy Spirit we are unable to live a life of holiness. The Holy Spirit leads us, guides us and empowers us to live and walk out a life that is holy.

It is the Holy Spirit who **leads** as we grow into maturity. The Holy Spirit draws us through obedience, discipline and encouragement and gives us a deeper understanding of God's word and ways.

~ Glenn Burris - I can't even put into words the preciousness of the Scriptures in your aging years after they have led you, fed you, taught you, warned you, consoled you, scared you, shaken you, thrilled you, blessed you, baffled you, cheered you, changed you and convicted you for a lifetime.

❖ **Holiness principle # 6** – The Holy Spirit leads me into holiness as I obey Him.

To understand how the Holy Spirit works to transform our lives we need to know how the Bible describes Him and how He functions. **Isaiah 11:2**

- 1) He is the Spirit of the Lord – this speaks to His **authority** and power as God Himself. The Spirit does not operate on His own, He conveys to us the will of Jesus.
- 2) He is the Spirit of **Wisdom**. Wisdom is knowledge correctly applied. It is one thing to know what to do. It is another thing to know how and when to do it. Wisdom is perceptive. It is a way of looking at things and the process we go through in making decisions. How we see and view things matters. The Holy Spirit allows us to see things the way God does, not through our own perception and understanding. The Spirit of God sees things through the lens of purity and righteousness. Nothing He sees is **tainted** by insecurity, sin, emotions or life experience. The Spirit of wisdom always sees things in the correct light whether it be people or situations.
- 3) He is the Spirit of Understanding – understanding answers for us the question of **why**? It is important to know that God is not looking for blind obedience. That is coercion. Walking in holiness is all about **informed** consent. **James 1:5-8** Remember our walk of holiness is all about relationship. Wisdom is what to do, Understanding is knowing why God is asking us to live a certain way. It is the insight to see both how our obedience to His ways will benefit our lives and how our disobedience will have negative outcomes.

- 4) He is the Spirit of Counsel. **John 14:16, 26** A good counselor doesn't just tell you what you should do they help **guide** you to an answer. They know that you will never arrive at a solution on your own, but they know with some help and advice you will walk right to it and know your way back through the process the next time. The Holy Spirit will never just leave us there to **figure** things out on our own. He is our advocate that directs us into all truth without doing everything for us. This is called **equipping**.
- 5) He is the Spirit of might. The Holy Spirit does not just direct us into a life of holiness, He **empowers** us with the ability and spiritual and emotional strength to do it. Might is defined as **force** mastery, power and strength. **1 Corinthians 15:58, Ephesians 3:16**
- 6) He is the Spirit of Knowledge. The saying 'knowledge is power', is true. As our helper the Holy Spirit is our **teacher**. It is not only knowing what but how and why. Knowledge teaches us to think and reason as God does. **Isaiah 55:8-9** Remember, God not only has His ways, but He has His reasons and a way of **arriving** at those reasons and decisions. Our walk of holiness is not only in the doing but in our **being** which includes righteous thinking. Remember that "as a man thinks in His heart so is He". We can't be holy if we don't think holy. The Holy Spirit allow us to know the mind of Christ. **1 Corinthians 2:10-16**
- 7) He is the Spirit of the Fear of the Lord. While this comes last in the list of names that describe the Holy Spirit it is really at the heart of all He is. When we honor and revere the leading of the Holy Spirit as the will of God. When we honor God as our Lord or **master** everything else follows. **Proverbs 1:7, Colossians 1:10, Psalm 25:12, Proverbs 2:5, Psalm 25:14, Proverbs 16:6**

All of this is important to understand because it takes us back to the very start of this lesson. If we walk in the Spirit, we will **not** fulfill the lust of the flesh. **Galatians 5:16-18** We live a life of Holiness by simply following the leading of the Holy Spirit instead of our own desires and ideas.

The presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is one of the greatest gifts of God. He is our heaven on earth. A life of holiness ensures that we are walking with Him because we can be sure that if we choose to walk in our own ways then His presence will depart from us. Samson and David knew what it was like to lose the approval and favor of God. Holiness **keeps** us in the favor and walking in the blessing of God. **Jude 1:24-25, Romans 8:11-16, Galatians 3:3-6**