

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Topic: The Person of The Holy Spirit
Text: John 14:16-17

Wednesday, November 8th, 2023
Facilitator: Minister Nneoma Ewurum

Introduction

Before one can correctly understand the work of the Holy Spirit, we must first know the Spirit Himself. A frequent source of error about the work of the Holy Spirit is the attempt to study and understand His work without first coming to know Him as a Person.

It is of the highest importance from the standpoint of worship that we decided whether the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, worthy to receive our adoration, our faith, our love, our entire surrender to Himself or whether the Holy Spirit is simple an influence or a power or an illumination that God imparts to us.

If we think of the Holy Spirit as merely a power of an influence, our constant thought will be, “How can I get more of the Holy Spirit, “but if we think of Him in the biblical way as a Divine Person, our main thought or focus will instead be, “How can the Holy Spirit have more of me?”

The concept that the Holy Spirit is a merely a divine influence or power that we are to get hold of and use, leads to self-exaltation and self-sufficiency. However, if we grasp the thought that the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person of infinite majesty, glory and holiness and power, who has come into our hearts to dwell in us and take possession of our lives and use us, it leads us to respond in awe, reverence and humility.

Who is The Holy Spirit to you?

The Holy Spirit is a real person, just as real as Jesus Christ himself an ever present, loving Friend and mighty Helper, who is not only always by my side but dwells in my heart every day and every hour.

Biblical evidence that show that the Holy Spirit is a Person

1. He possess the essential attributes of personality. Will, Knowledge or intelligence, thought
 - a. A will. He bestows His gifts upon every man as He wills. I Corinthians 12:11.
 - b. Thought. Romans 8:27.
 - c. Knowledge. The Spirit knows and searches the things of God. 1 Corinthians 2: 10, 11.
 - d. Language. 1 Corinthians 2:13. He speaks.
 - e. Love. Paul exhorts the Romans for the love of the Spirit, to strive together with him in their prayers. Romans 15:30.

2. **The Holy Spirit acts as a person**

Actions which are attributed to Him and cannot be the expression of a power or a thing.

 - a. He dwells in believers. John 14:17
 - b. He teaches, he brings to remembrance. John 14:26
 - c. He testifies. John 15:26
 - d. He convicts of sin. John 16:8

- e. He guides into all truth, He hears, He speaks, He shows. John 16:13
- f. He inspires Scripture and speaks through it. Acts 1:16. 2 Peter 1:21.
- g. He spoke to Phillip. Acts 8:29.
- h. He calls into ministry. Acts 13:2.
- i. He sends forth His servants. Acts 13:4.
- j. He forbids certain actions. Acts 16:6, 7.
- k. He intercedes. Romans 8:26.

3. The Holy Spirit can be treated like a person

He can be

- a. Lied to. Acts 5:3.
- b. Tempted. Acts 5:9.
- c. Resisted. Acts 7:51.
- d. Grieved. Ephesians 4:30.
- e. Outraged. Hebrews 10:29.
- f. Blasphemed against. Matthew 12:31.
- g. Called upon. Ezekiel 37:9.

The Holy Spirit is God and possess Divine attributes. Co-equal with God the Father and Son.

- 1. Omniscience. The Spirit searches all things, the deep things of God. 1 Corinthians 2:10,11.
- 2. Omnipresence. Whither shall I go from your Spirit? Psalm 139:7.
- 3. Omnipotence. Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit.
- 4. To lie to the Holy Spirit is to lie to God Himself. Acts 5:3, 4.
- 5. Distinct person from God the Father and God the Son.
- 6. Does only work God can do such as creating, regenerating and sanctifying.

Are there ways we consciously or unconsciously regard the Holy Spirit as less than He actually is?

Cultivating a deeper relationship with the Person of the Holy Spirit

- 1. Have a fundamental understanding that He is a person. You cannot have a relationship with an “it”
- 2. Become more aware of His ever abiding presence
- 3. Talk, relate with, interact with Him throughout the day, every waking moment
- 4. Spend time with Him
- 5. Prayer to know Him more
- 6. Study of the Word
- 7. Avoid things that grieve the Holy Spirit

Conclusion

The emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit without a fundamental knowledge and foundation of the Person of the Holy Spirit leads to us not cultivating a meaningful relationship with Him. You cannot develop a relationship with an essence or power or a force neither can you love, adore or call upon Him. A relationship with person of the Holy Spirit is an invitation into a better knowledge, understanding and experience of His works in the life of a believer. The best part is He desires this relationship. He longs for intimacy. He longs for a closeness that allows you to call Him your best friend.