

God's Story, Our Story

Lesson 28: The Holy Spirit

The Lord and Giver of Life



Jn 14:16-18

1 Cor 12:3; Gal 4:6

CCC 686

CCC 688

CCC 689-90

CCC 692-93

CCC 694-701

*Gen 1:1-2, 2:7;
CCC 703-04*

CCC 706

CCC 707

1. Jesus promised his disciples that He would not leave them orphans, but would send them a consoler: the Holy Spirit.
2. To be in touch with Jesus Christ, we need to be touched by the Holy Spirit, who communicates God's life to us; it is by him that we can understand and proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God.
3. The Holy Spirit is at work with the Father and the Son to accomplish the plan of salvation. Now, ushered by the Incarnation, the Spirit is revealed as a person who dwells in Christ's disciples.
4. The Holy Spirit is the perfect love between the Father and Son; He is consubstantial with the Father and Son.
5. The Holy Spirit is the protector and guarantor of the Church. We can know the Holy Spirit:
 - a. In the Scriptures he inspired;
 - b. In the Tradition of the Church;
 - c. In the Church's magisterium, which he assists;
 - d. In the sacramental liturgy, which puts us in communion with Christ;
 - e. In prayer, wherein he intercedes for us;
 - f. In the charisms and ministries which build up the Church;
 - g. In the signs of apostolic and missionary life;
 - h. In the witness of the saints.
6. The Holy Spirit is
 - a. The Inspirator of the Scriptures (inerrancy of the canon)
 - b. The Animator of Sacred Tradition (efficacy of the sacraments)
 - c. The Guarantor of the Magisterium (infallibility of ministry)
7. The Spirit is inseparable yet distinct from the Father and the Son. The mission of the Spirit is to communicate Christ's glory to his disciples, unite them to Him and make them live in Him.
8. Titles of the Holy Spirit: Paraclete, Advocate, Consoler, the Spirit of the promise, the Spirit of adoption, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of God.
9. Symbols of the Holy Spirit: Water, anointing, fire, cloud and light, the seal, the hand, the finger, the dove.
10. The Spirit in Creation: The Word of God and his Breath are at the origin of all creation. God made man from his own hands – the Son and the Spirit – so that man would bear the divine form.
11. The Spirit of promise: The economy of salvation begins with God's promise to Abraham, fulfilled when the Son assumes the image of God in perfect union with the Holy Spirit.
12. Theophanies light up the way of the promise, from the patriarchs to Moses and from Joshua to the prophets. God's Word was seen and

<p>CCC 708</p> <p><i>Ps 51:10-11; CCC 709-710</i></p> <p><i>Is 42:1-9, 49:1-6, 50:4-10, 52:13-53:12</i></p> <p><i>Jer 31:31-33; CCC 715</i></p> <p><i>Lk 1:15; CCC 717-20</i></p> <p>CCC 721-26</p> <p><i>Jn 6:63; Jn 3:5; CCC 727; Jn 4:14, 23-24; 7:37-39</i></p> <p><i>Jn 14:26, 15:26, 16:7- 14, 20:21-22</i></p> <p><i>Acts 2:1-4 CCC 731-32</i></p> <p>CCC 733-35 <i>Eph 1:13</i></p> <p>CCC 736, <i>Gal 5:22-23</i></p> <p>CCC 737-38</p> <p>CCC 739, <i>Eph 3:8-10</i></p>	<p>heard, revealed and concealed in the cloud of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>13. The divine pedagogy appears in the gift of the Law, a “pedagogue” to lead God’s people to Christ. The Law’s inability to save man and the awareness of sin enkindle a desire for the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>14. The Kingdom promised to David is the work of the Holy Spirit; the return of the remnant after the Exile prefigures the Church.</p> <p>15. Isaiah’s “servant songs” reveal the Messiah and how he will send the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>16. Prophetic texts reveal that the Holy Spirit will engrave a new law upon the hearts of men, and gather and reconcile all people.</p> <p>17. In John the Baptist, the Spirit begins the restoration of man to the divine likeness, prefiguring what he would achieve in Christ.</p> <p>18. Mary is the masterwork of the mission of the Son and Spirit. The Holy Spirit prepared Mary with his grace, fulfilled the Father’s plan in her giving birth to the Messiah, manifested the Son in his flesh, and brings men into communion with Christ through Mary. As New Eve and mother of the Church, she was present at Pentecost.</p> <p>19. As the Messiah, Jesus is anointed by the Father’s Spirit since his Incarnation. Jesus alludes to the Spirit throughout his ministry, though he does not reveal it fully until after He is glorified.</p> <p>20. At the Last Supper, Jesus promises his disciples that He will send them a Helper who will remain with them after He leaves. After the resurrection He gives them the Spirit by blowing on them.</p> <p>21. On the day of Pentecost, Christ’s Passover is fulfilled in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is fully revealed and the Kingdom of God becomes open to those who believe in him. The world enters into the time of the Church.</p> <p>22. The Holy Spirit is God’s love poured out into our hearts, which grants us the forgiveness of sins and the restoration of the divine likeness. The Holy Spirit is the “pledge” or “first fruits” of our inheritance: the life of love of the Holy Trinity.</p> <p>23. The fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.</p> <p>24. The Church is sent to bear witness to the Holy Trinity, and brings to completion the mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>25. The Church communicates the Holy Spirit to her members through the seven Sacraments.</p>
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Questions for Discussion

1. How is the Holy Spirit related to the Father and the Son?
2. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in salvation and in spreading the Gospel?
3. Why did Jesus allude to the Spirit but did not reveal it entirely until after His resurrection?
4. What should our relationship be to the Holy Spirit?
5. How can I know that the Holy Spirit is present in my life? Must I “feel” his presence?