

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is a person

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit is not an influence or power or some genderless force that we can tap into for strength. The Bible shows us that The Holy Spirit is an intelligent personal being who is fully God, chooses to use personal emotions and action to personally relate to us and bring about the purposes and plans of God.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

1. The Holy Spirit is intelligent and has a will.
 - a. The Holy Spirit intellectually searches the deep things of God and has in depth knowledge of the mind of God. **1 Corinthians 2:10-11**
 - b. The Holy Spirit intellectually decides in his infinite wisdom to give gifts to the church. **1 Corinthians 12:11**
2. Other personal characteristics of the Holy Spirit
 - a. The Holy Spirit can be grieved **Ephesians 4:30**
 - b. The Holy Spirit can be lied to **Acts 5:3-4**
 - c. The Holy Spirit can be insulted **Hebrews 10:29**

The Gender of the Holy Spirit

Although the Holy Spirit is a Spirit the Bible ascribes the masculine gender to Him. **John 14:26, 15:26, and 16:7** refer to the Holy Spirit not as “it”, but as “He”. So when we speak about the Holy Spirit, let us keep with the Scripture and refer to the Holy Spirit as him.

The Holy Spirit is God

The Scripture supports the fact that the Holy Spirit is God. The Holy Spirit is equal in nature, existence, and power as the Father and the Son. He holds all the attributes that the Bible ascribes to God.

The Attributes of the Holy Spirit

1. The Holy Spirit is Eternal **Hebrews 9:14**
2. The Holy Spirit has the power of the Most High. **Luke 1:35**
3. The Holy Spirit is all knowing (past, present, and future). **John 14:26**
4. The Holy Spirit is always present everywhere. **Psalms 139:7-10**

The Holy Spirit is called LORD

The Scripture shows us that there is one Lord and yet the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is called LORD.

1. There is one Lord **Ephesians 4:5**
2. The Father is called Lord **Isaiah 64:8**
3. The Son is called Lord **John 11:32**
4. The Holy Spirit is called Lord **2 Cor 3:17**

So once again we have the Biblical Trinity seen in these verses. We have one LORD but the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are named the One Lord.

The Holy Spirit does the activity of God

1. The Holy Spirit takes part in Creation **Psalms 104:30**
2. The Holy Spirit took part in the resurrection of Jesus. **Acts 4:10 with 1 Peter 3:18**

The Holy Spirit is a distinct person

Although the Holy Spirit is God, he is a distinct person from the Father and the Son. He is not simply the shadow of God, or the breath of God, or the force of God. He is a separate person.

1. We see the fact that the Holy Spirit is a distinct person at the baptism of Jesus **Matthew 3:16**.
2. We see the fact that the Holy Spirit is a distinct person in the Great commission **Matthew 28:19**

The Work of the Holy Spirit

The Scripture not only shows us who the Holy Spirit is but also what his work is on earth and through believers. Once again the Holy Spirit is not some impersonal force but He is a person who personally is at work bringing about the will of God.

His Relationship to the world

1. The Holy Spirit works in the affairs of unbelievers to convict them of sin, righteousness, and judgment. **John 16:8**
2. The Holy Spirit uses unbelievers to accomplish his will and to show the world that He is God and there is no other. **Isaiah 44:28-45:6**

His Relationship to Jesus

1. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit **Matthew 1:18-20**
2. Jesus was led by the Spirit **Matthew 4:1**
3. Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit **Luke 4:14**
4. It was through the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus cast out demons **Matthew 12:28**
5. It was through the power of the Holy Spirit that he rose from the dead **1 Peter 3:18**

His Relationship to the Bible

1. He is the author of the bible **2 Peter 1:21**

His Relationship to Believers

1. First the Holy Spirit worked in your life to bring you to salvation
 - a. The Holy Spirit brings about conversion **John 3:5-8**
 - b. The Holy Spirit brings you into the body of Christ **1 Corinthians 12:13**
 - c. The Holy Spirit seals us for future redemption **Ephesians 1:13-14**
2. Second the Holy Spirit continues to work in our lives
 - a. The Holy Spirit fills us with the fullness of God **Ephesians 5:18**
 - b. The Holy Spirit guides you into all truth **John 16:13**
 - c. The Holy Spirit Points us to Jesus **John 16:13-14**
 - d. The Holy Spirit teaches us **John 14:26**
 - e. The Holy Spirit confirms that we are children of God **Romans 8:16**
 - f. The Holy Spirit empowers us for witness **Acts 1:8**
 - i. The Fruit of the Spirit – Christ-likeness **Galatians 5:22**. These are the natural outgrowth of being connected to the vine.
 - ii. The Gifts of the Spirit – For Ministry **1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12:3-8, and Ephesians 4:11-16**
 1. These gifts are given for the good of the whole church **1 Corinthians 12:7**
 2. These gifts are given for the edification of the body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 14:12**
 - g. The Holy Spirit prays for us. **Romans 8:26-27**

The Names of the Holy Spirit

There are different names that the Holy Spirit is given in relationship to his work in our lives.

1. The Spirit of Grace **Zech 12:10**
2. The Spirit of Truth **John 14:17**
3. The Spirit of Holiness **Romans 1:4**
4. The Spirit of Life **Romans 8:2**
5. The Spirit of Adoption **Romans 8:15**
6. The Spirit of Glory **1 Peter 4:14**
7. The Helper/Comforter **John 14:16-26**