

Relating to the Holy Spirit

- **Three Tendencies**
 - We tend to struggle to **relate** to the Spirit
 - We tend to think of the Spirit in **academic** terms
 - We tend to **depersonalize** the Spirit

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The Journey to Know Him

Our Focus:
The Practical Work
of the Holy Spirit
in our Lives

**A Journey more for
the Heart than the Head**

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The Journey to Know Him

- **2 Brands of Evangelical Christianity**
 - Cessationists
 - Certain gifts given to authenticate the new work of God in the church
 - When the church was established, these gifts ceased to be given
 - Charismatics
 - All the gifts of the Spirit continue today

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The Journey to Know Him

- **2 Brands of Evangelical Christianity**
 - Charismatics
 - Free-spirited, right brained, experiential roller coaster
 - Cessationists
 - Uptight, left brained, logical and argumentative
- **Neither of these are adequate**

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The Journey to Know Him

- **I am a Charismatic Cessationist**
 - Although the sign gifts died in the first century, the Holy Spirit did not
 - He is alive and at work in every believer
 - We can know Him in a personal way
- **A Journey for the Heart more than the Head**

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

What you think about the Holy Spirit is critical

“What you think about God is the most important thing about you.”
- A.W. Tozer

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is a Person**
 - He has feelings
 - He experiences love (Rom 15:30)
 - He experiences joy (1 Thess 1:6)
 - He experiences grief (Eph 4:30)
 - He experiences rejection (Heb 10:29)

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is a Person**
 - He has a will
 - He gives gifts (1 Cor 12:11)
 - He speaks (Acts 13:2)
 - He corrects and guides (Ac 16:6-7)
 - He commands (Ac 8:29)
 - He leads (Rom 8:14)

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is a Person**
 - He has thoughts
 - He teaches (Jn 14:26)
 - He assures (Rom 8:16)
 - He prays (Rom 8:26)
 - He searches our hearts (1 Cor 2:10-11)

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is a Person**
 - He has desires
 - He calls into service (Ac 13:2)
 - He convicts and convinces (Jn 16:8-11)

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is a Divine Person**
 - He is fully God
 - Everything God is and does, the Holy Spirit is and does

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is the Indwelling, Divine Person**
 - Every Christian has the Holy Spirit living inside them

“If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.”
- Romans 8:9

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is the Invisible, Indwelling, Divine Person**
 - Because He is a Spirit, he is invisible
 - We are often completely unaware of His presence with us
 - He will not force His presence on us

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

- **He is the Invisible, Indwelling, Divine Person whose mission is to make Jesus Known**

“When the Counselor comes...
the Spirit of truth...
He will testify about me.”
- John 15:26

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Something Better

- **The Indwelling Spirit is Better than the Incarnate Jesus**
 - John 14:1-5, 16-18
 - John 16:5-15

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Something Better


- **A Case Study**
 - The terrified disciples in the boat
Mark 4:35-41
 - The bold disciples on trial
Acts 4:1-13
- **The Difference? Pentecost**

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Something Better

- **The Challenge to Trust God**
 - We want Jesus physically present
 - He says the indwelling Spirit is better
 - If we don't agree, He is not the one whose mind needs to change.


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Two Final Challenges

Ask a Probing Question:
Holy Spirit, how am I **treating** You?

Pray a Serious Prayer:
Holy Spirit, help me to **know** You
and **hear** You when You **speak**.



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