

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?



HOLY SPIRIT

THE NATURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Part 2 of a 7 part series 'THE HOLY SPIRIT')

This series is focusing on teaching and equipping our church about who the Holy Spirit is, what He does and how we live by His power. **In this group study we are going to** study that God imparted His wisdom supernaturally through the Holy Spirit to the human writers of Scripture. We are all called to a deeper understanding of the personhood and work of the Holy Spirit. We hope to look at His character, attributes and the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer.

Through a closer look at the scripture and discussion we will recognise the profound significance of the Holy Spirit's presence, guidance and empowerment in our daily walk with Him. Let's open our hearts and minds to this revelation.

KEY VERSE

1 Corinthians 2:10-11

10 But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. 11 No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit."

DISCOVERY

In this scripture, the apostle Paul provides insight into the nature of the Holy Spirit. This passage delves into the depth of God's revelation and the role of the Spirit in revealing God's truths to believers. Here we uncover the characteristics and workings of the Holy Spirit.

As you read on through verses 10-16, you will also discover that Paul shows 3 ways the believer can know God:

Revelation in 2:10-11

Inspiration in 2:12-13

Illumination 2:14-16

DISCUSSION

Starting Question:

Do you sometimes feel like you don't understand the bible? Most of us would answer yes :)

Discuss ways in which you can read the word of God and understand its truths.

Exploring Questions:

Understanding Spiritual Truths: In verse 10, Paul begins by highlighting the depth of God's revelation, which the Holy Spirit searches and reveals to believers.

"But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit."

First, we can know God by revelation. "Revealed" (unveiled) here refers to Scripture. The Holy Spirit is the author of Scripture. He used human agents to place Scripture in written form, but it was the Holy Spirit who disclosed Scripture to the human author. The Holy Spirit is the agent of unveiling God in written form.

The Greek stresses the word “to us”– believers in contrast to the rulers of the world. Leaders of the world use science and philosophy but cannot come to ultimate truth. They can only find human perspectives of truth. The believer finds eternal, absolute truth in Scripture because the Holy Spirit is the revealer.

Discuss some things that you have believed because of how the world has presented it as ‘truth’ and then what ultimate truth you have found through the word of God that contradicts the worldly ‘truth’.

“For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.”

The Greek word for “searches” is the search of a professional searcher’s report. This searcher or researcher investigated custom issues for the government, for example. The Holy Spirit searches the attributes, work, and counsels of God and selects from “all things” truth appropriate for the believer.

He does not search to discover but to select what is appropriate for the writing of Scripture. He searches the “deep things of God.” There is nothing that He does not penetrate to formulate Scripture.

What does this reveal about the Holy Spirit's role in illuminating spiritual truths?

The Spirit's Knowledge: According to verse 11, who knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God?

“For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?”

Paul set up an analogy of the Holy Spirit’s revelation of Scripture to a person knowing himself in a self-conscious sense. We can never know another person as we know ourselves. We cannot even know our husbands or wives as we know ourselves. The Spirit of God can know God thoroughly because He is God. He knows Himself.

“Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.”

The human authors of Scripture were not left to themselves to write Scripture. The Holy Spirit knows everything about God because He is God.

How does this emphasise the unique and intimate relationship between God and the Holy Spirit?

The Depth of God's Wisdom: Reflect on the concept that the Spirit searches the deep things of God.

How does this deepen our understanding of God's wisdom and the significance of the Holy Spirit's revelation in our lives?

Actions Questions:

As we look at how the study of this scripture can empower us, let's open our hearts to the leading of the Holy Spirit and allow Him to deepen our understanding of His nature and work in our lives.

In what ways can we cultivate a closer relationship with the Holy Spirit in our daily lives?

How does the revelation of the Holy Spirit impact our faith and our walk with God on a practical level?

DEVOTION

The Word of God is the product of God Himself. He used human agents, but He supernaturally superintended the writing of every word of Scripture to be fully inspired by God. There is a distinction between revelation and inspiration. Revelation is the process whereby the Holy Spirit gave the content of Scripture, whereas inspiration was the superintending process of the Holy Spirit to ensure that every word of Scripture is without error and accurate.

In 2 Timothy 3:16 it says, 16 All Scripture (that which is written down) is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Take time now to pray for each other:

That the Holy Spirit will continue to reveal Himself to each person through the word of God.