

# Who is the Holy Spirit?



## Introduction

The importance of understanding the Holy Spirit:

- The Holy Spirit is a person, not an impersonal force (John 16:7).
- He is the Spirit of Jesus, and is essential for our relationship with God.

Key scripture: John 16:7 – Jesus promises the Holy Spirit as a Helper and Advocate.

## 1: Who He Is

**The Person of the Holy Spirit:** (John 14:16; 1 John 2:1)

- He has a mind, will, and emotions.
- His names and roles: Helper, Counselor, Advocate, Comforter, and Friend .

**A Relationship with Jesus:** John 14:16

- The Spirit is "another Helper" (Greek: *allos* – another of the same kind).
- He is with us like Jesus was with the disciples but in a deeper, indwelling way.

## 2: His Power and Filling

**Empowerment for Witnessing:** Acts 1:4-8

- Jesus commanded the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit before ministering.
- The Spirit's infilling provides boldness and power to spread the Gospel.

**Examples of the Holy Spirit's Filling in Acts:**

1. **Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4):**
2. **Samaria (Acts 8:5-17):**
3. **Paul (Acts 9:17-18):**
4. **Cornelius' Household (Acts 10:44-46):**
5. **Ephesus (Acts 19:1-7):**

## 3: The Ongoing Need for the Holy Spirit

**The Holy Spirit is essential for every Christian:** Acts 19:1-7

Many believers, like those in Acts, have knowledge of Jesus but lack the Spirit's fullness. Even sincere disciples needed this experience to complete their faith.

**The transformative effects of being filled:**

Empowerment for service and supernatural results (e.g., tongues, boldness, healing).

## Conclusion and Practical Applications

Acts 1:8 – "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you."

## Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Who is the Holy Spirit to you, and how does understanding Him as a Helper and Friend (John 14:16) change the way you relate to God?
2. Why do you think Jesus emphasized waiting for the Holy Spirit's power before beginning ministry (Acts 1:8)? How does this apply to us today?
3. In the examples from Acts, how did being filled with the Holy Spirit transform the lives of believers? What evidence of the Spirit's work can we seek in our own lives?