

Have You Made the Holy Spirit Your Friend?

Do you know the Holy Spirit as your friend?

We know Jesus as the Son of God who died on a cross to save us from our sins. We know the Heavenly Father, our God, who created us and formed us in our mother's womb. Do we know the Holy Spirit, the One who came to comfort us and be our friend, (John 14:26)?

A relationship with each of the Trinity is important, but often the Holy Spirit gets overlooked.

The Holy Spirit has always been present from the beginning of time He has existed. In Genesis 1:2 it says, "The earth was empty and had no form. Darkness covered the ocean, and God's Spirit was moving over the water." And in Genesis 2:7, "He breathed the breath of life into the man's nose, and the man became a living person." There are several passages concerning the breath and the Spirit of God throughout the Bible, which are one in the same.

In John 14 Jesus said, "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth. Notice Christ's words here, He says, "The Helper will be with you forever and that He abides with you and will be in you." The Greek word for abide is men'-o, and literally means to stay in a given place, state, relation or expectancy, to continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, and tarry for. The Holy Spirit is here for us, He abides, dwells with in us! Shouldn't we get to know the One who is within us? You get to know Him by spending time in the Father's presence and reading what the scriptures say about the Holy Spirit.

Jesus further explains in John 16 and says, "I will ask the

Father and He will give you another Helper that He may be with you forever, that is the Spirit of truth. He dwells with you and will be in you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgement.

But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to Me by taking from what is Mine and making it known to you.

When we know the Holy Spirit as our friend, He will lead and guide us. He will convict us. Conviction is good and leads us to be more like Jesus. The Holy Spirit doesn't want to leave us where we are at in sin and unrighteousness, but He wants to lead us to righteousness in Christ Jesus.

He is a great teacher, companion, instructor and comforter. He is there for us. Jesus knew He couldn't be in all places at all times. He loved us so much to leave us, so that the Holy Spirit could come and be with each one of us individually at all times.

He has often been thought about us a ghost or invisible force of the trinity, instead of a vital person of the God head. As we have gotten to know Jesus as our personal Savior, we too should get to know the Holy Spirit. What are His aspects, His characteristics and how can we spend time with Him?

The Holy Spirit brings power and boldness upon us. "But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere, (Acts 1:8). The Holy Spirit in us and flowing through us will help us to testify, evangelize and be bold. It is Him working through us that equips us to minister.

When they were assembled together the Holy Spirit came upon them through prayer and filled them to speak the word of God with boldness, (Acts 4:31). So many people want the boldness to speak out the word of God and it is our friend the Holy Spirit that gives us that boldness when we invite Him in to fill us, (Acts. 2:38, Acts 9:17, Acts 10:44).

The Holy Spirit will speak to you in your spirit and teach you what to say and testify. In John 14:26 "But the Counselor, the Ruach Ha'Kodesh, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything; that is, he will remind you of everything I have said to you." He is a Counselor. We can go to Him for advice, receive biblical revelation and direction. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you in your Bible study and to assist you in bringing forth more revelation of the scriptures.

In the Bible in Romans 8 He also helps us in our prayer time.

"So too the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf with unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance. And He Who searches the hearts of men knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit [what His intent is], because the Spirit intercedes and pleads [before God] in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will. (Rom. 8:26-27). When we don't know how to pray for our friend's mom or are too stressed to pray for our own problems as we pray the Holy Spirit co-laborers with us. How wonderful we have a friend, a person of the God head, to co-labor in prayer with us.

The Holy Spirit is many things to us. This is such a short portion of who He is and what He does for us. I encourage you to read through Acts, 1 Corinthians 12 and other places in the Bible to learn more about the Holy Spirit, your friend and

Comforter.

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