

SERIES

Week 1

Discovery of One God in three persons in loving relationship.

Week 2

Discovery of the Father's loving plan.

Week 3

Discovery of the Son's loving service.

Week 4

Discovery of the Spirit's loving intimacy.



INTRODUCTION

Big theme:

Within the Trinity there is the fullest, most satisfying, and complete interchange of love amongst three Holy persons and consequently this Trinitarian love must be the foundation of all our human love.

Today's theme:

The Spirit's loving intimacy



WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. HE IS GOD

"The Holy Spirit, then, is fully God. He is not one-third God, but fully God. Yet, it is not the Spirit alone who is fully God, but he eternally exists along with the Father and the Son, each of whom also possesses fully the identically same nature." Ware

B. HE IS A PERSON

He speaks (Acts 13:2; 1 Timothy 4:1) leads (Romans 8:14), wills (1 Corinthians 12:11), forbids (Acts 16:6) and can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30). All of these observations show that the Spirit is a relational person, not an impersonal force.



WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

C. HE IS INTIMATE

- He helps the believer remember the words of Christ;
- He glorifies Christ;
- He pours out the love of God in the Christian's heart;
- He witnesses to the believer that he is a child of God;
- He seals the faith in the Christian;
- He assures the believer of salvation;
- He anoints the believer;
- He sheds the love of God abroad in the believer's heart;
- He becomes to him the Spirit of supplication.



Source: John Owen

1. CREATING LOVE

"And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

Romans 5:5

"Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him. By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive."

John 7:38-39

"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."

Romans 8:15-16



2. REGENERATING LOVE

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

John 3:3-8



3. SANCTIFYING LOVE

"True religion, in great part, consists in holy affections."

Jonathan Edwards

"The Sprit beautifies his new creation. That means untwisting me. Naturally I am bent in on myself and I take delight in my own supposed independence. But if I am to be anything like the outgoing and outward-looking Father, Son and Spirit, the Spirit must take my eyes off myself (which he does by winning me to Christ)."

Michael Reeves



4. EMPOWERING LOVE

"Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

John 20:19b-23

"If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Luke 11:13



APPLICATION

Do you want more of God in your life today?

- Delight to serve unnoticed like the Spirit.
- Delight in the unity of the Spirit.
- Delight in the power of the Spirit.

