

The Holy Spirit

1. God is Spirit (John 4:24), and the only personal experience you and I have with God is with God's Spirit.
2. The "Holy Spirit," the "Spirit of God," the "Spirit of Jesus," and the "Spirit of Jesus Christ" are the same Person (see Romans 8:9; Acts 16:6-7; Philippians 1:19; and 1 Peter 1:11).
3. God's Spirit is mentioned 72 times in the Old Testament; 222 times in the New Testament.
4. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is God's act of redemption. This baptism is the FIRST, not a second or later blessing (Acts 1:8, 2:38; Romans 8:10).
5. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is permanent and cannot be repeated. The Spirit enters at conversion and never "leaves or forsakes" us (Romans 8:9-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3).
6. The fullness of the Holy Spirit is a variable and must be repeated day by day (Ephesians 3:19, 5:18).
7. Gifts of the Spirit do not automatically bring with them equipment for ready or wise use of them. Gifts seem to come "in the rough" and require education, training, practice, and experience for their proper use.
8. God's primary gift to us is soul friendship.

A. God's Spirit has a character of:

Counsel (John 14:26)
Glory (1 Peter 4:14)
Holiness (Romans 1:4)
Life (Romans 8:2)
Truth (John 14:17)
Wisdom & Understanding
(Isaiah 11:2; Ephesians 1:17)

B. God's Spirit has the attributes of personality:

Ability to Communicate
(1 Corinthians 2:13)
Goodness (Nehemiah 9:20)
Knowledge (1 Corinthians 2:10-12)
Love (Romans 15:30)
Understanding (Romans 8:26-27)
Will, Plan, & Purpose (1 Corinthians 12:11)

C. God's Spirit is a Person:

The Spirit can be blasphemed or slandered
(Matthew 12:31; Mark 3:28-29).
The Spirit can be insulted (Hebrews 10:29).
The Spirit can be lied to, but not deceived
(Acts 5:3).
The Spirit can be resisted (Acts 7:51).
The Spirit can be stifled
(1 Thessalonians 5:19).
The Spirit can be tempted or tested,
but not led into sin (Acts 5:9).
The Spirit can experience sorrow and grief
(Ephesians 4:30).
The Spirit communicates with us
(John 14:26; Romans 8:16;
Hebrews 10:15).
The Spirit experiences jealousy
(James 4:5)

D. The Spirit's Ministry to Unbelievers:

- The Spirit reveals God's plan to unbelievers (Ephesians 3:4-6).
- The Spirit convicts unbelievers of sin (John 16:8).
- The Spirit draws unbelievers to Jesus (John 6:44; 1 Corinthians 12:3).
- The Spirit adopts unbelievers into God's family (Romans 8:15; Ephesians 1:4-5).

E. The Spirit's Ministry to Believers:

- The Spirit baptizes believers (Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16; Acts 1:5; 1 Corinthians 12:13).
- The Spirit causes believers to be "born again" (John 3:5; Galatians 4:29).
- The Spirit causes believers to overflow with hope (Romans 15:13).
- The Spirit causes us to be pure and pleasing to God (Romans 15:16).
- The Spirit comforts believers (Acts 9:31; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4).
- The Spirit confirms the truth or error of various teachings (Romans 9:1; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; Hebrews 10:15; 1 John 5:6).
- The Spirit fills and controls believers (Luke 1:41, 67, 2:25, 10:21; Acts 2:4, 4:8, 31, 11:24; Ephesians 5:18).
- The Spirit fills believers with love, peace, and joy (Romans 5:5; 14:17, 15:30; Colossians 1:8).
- The Spirit gives a foretaste of future glory (Romans 8:23).
- The Spirit gives believers spiritual power (Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:13-14; 2 Corinthians 6:6; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Peter 1:11-12).
- The Spirit gives direction to believers (Mark 1:12; Acts 8:29, 11:29, 19:21, 20:22-23; Romans 8:14; Galatians 5:18, 22, 25; 2 Peter 1:21).
- The Spirit gives eternal life and inner peace (John 6:63; Romans 8:6).
- The Spirit gives special gifts or abilities to each believer (1 Corinthians 12:1, 4, 8-11; Hebrews 2:4).
- The Spirit gives victory over evil and over evil spirits (1 John 4:4).
- The Spirit grants spiritual freedom to believers (2 Corinthians 3:17).

- The Spirit helps us in our distress (Romans 8:26).
- The Spirit is God's guarantee of our salvation (2 Corinthians 5:5; Ephesians 1:14).
- The Spirit is sent by the Father to be with us forever (Matthew 28:20; John 14:16).
- The Spirit leads believers into truth (John 14:17, 15:26, 16:13; 1 John 2:27).
- The Spirit leads believers to worship (Revelation 1:10).
- The Spirit lives within every person who has been born again (John 7:39; Acts 2:38, 15:8; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Galatians 3:2; 2 Timothy 1:14; 1 John 2:27, 3:24, 4:4, 13).
- The Spirit lives within the Body of Christ, the Church (Ephesians 2:22).
- The Spirit makes believers holy (2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2).
- The Spirit prays for us (Romans 8:26-27).
- The Spirit produces a change of heart and mind in believers (Romans 2:29, 8:6, 12:1-2).
- The Spirit produces character fruit in believers' lives (Galatians 5:22-23).
- The Spirit reminds believers of the teachings of Jesus (John 14:26).
- The Spirit reveals what He receives from Jesus and from the Father (John 16:15; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; Ephesians 3:5).
- The Spirit selects the leaders for the church (Acts 20:28).
- The Spirit sets believers free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2, 11).
- The Spirit speaks through believers (Matthew 10:20; Mark 13:11; Luke 12:12).
- The Spirit speaks to believers (Acts 10:19, 13:2, 16:6-7; Romans 8:16; 1 Peter 1:11-12).
- The Spirit speaks to churches (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, 22).
- The Spirit transforms us into the likeness of Christ (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)!