



The Disciple's Comforter and Counsellor

"Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you."

II Timothy 1:13-14

A Study on the Holy Spirit

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The Disciple's Comforter and Counsellor

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Preface

Making disciples is the call and mandate of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus urges the disciples to follow Him. He has laid down the teaching and the walk before us that we need to follow in His steps as our supreme example.

It is key for every believer and the church to know that disciples are not born but they are made. For the church to be strong in the last days, we must be about the business of equipping the saints (disciples) for the work of service.

It is our belief here at Project L.A.M.B.S. that it is important and key for the disciples to know and understand clearly what and who they are in Christ before they will be able to pass it on to someone else. Our hope is that you will want to commit yourselves and take seriously this pilgrimage journey that you are about to take.

It will not be easy and for many it will be like looking in a mirror and seeing things you really do not want to know or see. But before something can become mature it has to start as a seed then be nurtured by its environment before it can become mature enough to produce more fruit. This takes time, dedication and training in the disciplines of Christ.

James 4:10 tells us that this discipleship journey starts by “humbling thyself in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up.”

Secondly, we learn through Paul and James that it is important to draw closer to Christ, to who He is, so that we could begin to make the next step of making a lifelong commitment to Him as a disciple.

James 4:8a points out that as you draw closer to Christ; He will draw closer to you. This training is to help the disciple to understand who they are, so that they can give it away to someone else and to keep spreading the good news to as many as would receive it.

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This booklet is for you to learn from so that you could take two or three other people and teach and equip them in their faith so that they could in turn teach, equip and train also two or three more people (multiplication factor).

This is a pilgrimage that I believe that Jesus is taking us on so that we will be able to fulfill the great commission of making disciples so that they could become laborers who will bring in the last day harvest that is ready (Matthew 9:37-38).

Our call is not to be so much a Nehemiah, who built physical walls, but to be an Ezra, who built a spiritual relationship in people with God. Ezra means “the one who helps.” The role of the teacher is to help guide and equip others in their discipleship walk with Jesus Christ.

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Introduction:

At the beginning of each discipleship step you will find a key verse that sets the foundation for the entire book. The booklet is also set up in the “**A. B. C. Method**” of outlining. “**A**” representing the word **approach** (as known as introduction) which helps to introduce the section that will be discussed. “**B**” is the **body** of teaching that helps to better explain the topic and “**C**” represents the **conclusion**. This is where the teaching is summed up, plus it gives to the reader ideas on how to apply this truth to one life.

Each booklet also has as a memory verse, plus a little prayer to help the disciple to focus his prayer life on. Each section point contains one to three questions to help the disciple to think about that point in their own personal lives. There is also study question and extra Scriptures that could be used in a group setting. Example: cell groups, Sunday school etc. Pastors could also use these materials as a foundation for a sermon.

The best way for people to learn, is for the reader to clearly study and understand each step themselves personally and then for them to go out and teach someone else. This will bring greater discipline and understanding into one's own personal lives.

We pray that as you freely receive you will freely give to others around. The Holy Spirit is our great teacher and we need to call upon him as we study these lessons individually or as a group. God wants to use **YOU** as a channel of His love and grace, to be a vessel of faith and hope to people who you will come into contact with each day. I encourage you to “Keep on keeping on for Jesus Christ”.

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“Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.”

II Timothy 1:13-14

APPROACH:

This chapter will give to the disciple a clearer picture of who the Holy Spirit is and how He desires to work through our lives. We will see through His titles and names a glimpse of what His character and nature are. We will see Him first of all as part of the triune God who we worship and serve. We also will see Him as power and authority, as one who personally desires to have a relationship with us, as the one who baptizes and fills our lives. Finally we will learn how He places in us a desire to serve and for this He fills us with his fruit and gives us gifts to minister to others. The Bible is full of testimonies of the Holy Spirit empowering people for service. Thus it is important that we know how He does this in our lives.

Our view and understanding of who the Holy Spirit is and what He does will determine what kind of disciples we are for Christ. Therefore a disciple needs to understand how the individual needs to give over total control of his life to the Holy Spirit and how the church needs to be filled by the Holy Spirit for the work of service. The Holy Spirit abides with us and we need to yield to Him. This is a daily personal commitment and act of our wills.

A house can be swept and cleaned, but if no one lives in it, it has not yet become a home. A temple is only a building until people come in and worship; then it becomes a place where God's Spirit dwells. What goes on in the heart will come out in our attitude and walk, and will give testimony to the identity of who lives inside.

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FOCUS AND TARGET FOR TEACHER & STUDENT

TEACHER: To show how the Holy Spirit indwells, comforts, teaches, guides and directs the disciple in his everyday walk. The hope for this chapter is to give a clear understanding to the believer about the importance of having a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit. The Father gave the Holy Spirit. Do we receive and walk in Him?

STUDENT: That the student understands the implications of what it means to be filled, directed, gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit for the work of service and daily yield control of his life for God to change and work through him via the Holy Spirit.

DEFINITIONS AND SYNONYMS

Understanding the meaning of words is the heart to understanding Scripture. Words are the bridge that can help us to understand more about ourselves and about God and His word, the Bible. Please take time to meditate and reflect on the broad and narrow view of each word as defined, along with its synonyms.

Holy Spirit: The third part of the Godhead, the One who indwells and empowers the believer for service.

Abide: dwell, remain, last, bear, endure. Synonyms: accept, bear, endure, stand, submit to, suffer, tolerate, dwell, linger, live with, lodge, reside, rest, sojourn, stay, stop, tarry, wait, continue, endure, last, persist, remain.

Power: the ability or capacity to act or perform effectively; a specific capacity. Synonyms: ability, capability, capacity, competency, potential, energy, might, muscle, strength, vigor, weight, authority, command, control, dominion, influence, rule, sovereignty, privilege.

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SCRIPTURE

For this chapter, study this portion of Scripture. It is the key to a good biblical foundation and it is the next step to help you as a disciple to understand the ministry of the Holy Spirit that we have in Christ. Please look up and read it in its entirety. Take into account the author who wrote it, who it was written to and the context in which it relates to the other verses and chapters around it.

Zechariah 4:6 ... not by might nor by power, but by My **Spirit**, says the Lord of Hosts.

John 14:16-17 ... I ask the father and he will give you another **comforter** ... He abides with you and will be in you,

25-26 ... the **Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach and remind you.

STUDY

The Holy Spirit has been sent by the Father to empower and minister to the disciple of Christ. He is the one that keeps us in fellowship and relation with the triune God at all times. These two verses show for us this personal relation we have with God through the Holy Spirit. The Scriptures remind us that we are not to walk in our power but in His power and strength.

OBJECT LESSON

Jars: These are containers in which we can seal things to either keep them safe or preserved. The Bible calls the disciples jars of clay. Our body is the container but inside is a treasure in our earthen vessel. When we become a believer we are made alive and new in Christ. The vessel outside mostly stays the same, but the contents become powerful and dynamic. We become the temple of the Holy Spirit.

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Transition:

What follows in this chapter are twelve different areas of truth concerning the nature and character of the Holy Spirit and how He works in and through our lives as servants so we can minister to others.

BODY:

POINT ONE: HOLY SPIRIT AS GOD

LEAD-IN: As a disciple of Christ we believe that God has three different aspects to who He is. Because of man's limited understanding about this infinite God, He reveals Himself in ways that we can somewhat understand. He has revealed Himself to us as the Father, as the Son and as the Holy Spirit. This is why we call Him the triune God.

DEFINITION AND SYNONYMS:

Holy Spirit: The third part of the Godhead, the one who indwells and empowers the believer for service.

Trinity: the union of three persons in one Godhead, so that all three are one God as to substance but persons as to individuality.

Elohim: is translated as God; the plural form of EL, indicating the trinity because it is the plural form of God's name (El- Elohim).

KEY SCRIPTURES:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the **Holy Spirit**, be with you all. **II Corinthians 13:14**

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CONTEXT: II Corinthians 13:1-12

- Paul was encouraging the Corinthian church to examine themselves before God.
- They needed to examine their lives because of the sin that was still working in them.
- Christ was crucified ... but because of the power of God (Holy Spirit) He lives.
- They were to test and examine themselves.
- They were praying that disciples and the church would be made complete in Christ.
- Paul came to them with the authority of Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- He encouraged them to rejoice, be made complete, be like-minded and live in peace.

INSIGHTS:

The Holy Spirit is the active, empowering part of the Godhead. He is the power of God manifested to everything here on earth and throughout the universe. He has been part of the creation as the breath of God and in the New Testament as the power that raised Jesus from the dead. He was there all through creation. He came as an agent of deliverance in the book of Judges. With the kings He was the one who anointed them for the position of leadership, and in the books of the prophets He guided and counselled and spoke into their hearts what to say. In the New Testament He was the power behind the conception of Christ, the worker of the miracles, and in the book of Acts the one who now filled the disciples for the work of service and ministry. He is the anointing that unifies and empowers the church for service and harmony worldwide.

Since the time of Christ's death and resurrection we have been commanded to walk a life in the Spirit. God desires to personally be in us to teach and empower us so that we can overcome the things of the world and be cleansed from our sins. The Holy Spirit washes over us and in us for the purpose of making us righteous before a mighty God.