



What Do We Believe?

Lesson 20

What Do We Believe?

Lesson 20: The Holy Spirit: Ever Present, Everywhere and God's Revealer

Scriptures:

John 3:8; Matthew 3:16-17; Acts 2:14-18; Acts 7:55-56; I Corinthians 2: 9-14; Ephesians 1:17; Ephesians 3:14-19; I Peter 1:20-21

Lesson Goals:

To guide the learner's understanding of God's Holy Spirit
To guide the learner's understanding of His presence with him or her
To guide the learner's understanding of the work of God's Holy Spirit

Scripture Memory:

The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit. (John 3:8)

The Lesson:

Do some people seem to be everywhere? If you watch television news, there are some people who just seem to keep showing up in every newscast or magazine. There are people who are popular because they are in the movies or on TV. There are people who are popular because they are wealthy. Some are popular because they have a high office in government. These folks seem to be everywhere, and always in the news, because they are interesting and people want to know what is happening in their lives. Of course, they just seem to be everywhere and with us all the time. They really can't be everywhere at the same time and they certainly can't be there all the time.

But, God can and is everywhere. He is above us, He is around us, and He is in us (if we have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior). As the Holy Spirit He is everywhere, too. He can be everywhere because He is spirit. The Holy Spirit is called the Holy Ghost in some translations of the Bible. It would not be good to think of God like we think of ghosts...those imaginary spirits that float around in white sheets with round black holes for eyes. Ghosts are about death - God is about life.

The Bible says that God's presence is somewhat like the wind. When the wind blows it touches everyone and everything. It circles around corners and blows through cracks. It curves over mountain tops. When it blows on you, it doesn't seem to have a beginning place and you really can't tell where it will go next...not even how long it will blow.

Have you ever heard anyone talking about the wind "dying down?" They are referring to the fact that wind quits. It can be a gentle breeze or a powerful hurricane. But, sometimes it will stop. That, however, is not true of God's Holy Spirit. He is always with us. Day and night, **every** day and **every** night, He is present in the world and, as we have said, in every believer.

Do you know the president of the United States? Probably not. Someone could come to your house and say, "I know the president and I would like to tell you about him. I will then introduce you to him so that you can know him." That would be amazing. You would, most likely, welcome someone like that to your home.

Well, the Holy Spirit comes to all of us. He gently and quietly speaks to us. First, He tells us that there is a God who wants to be in our lives. Some people have called what the Holy Spirit gives us a "God hunger." In other words, every person feels a need to know that there is someone bigger and stronger than we are. We all want to believe that there is someone who is so powerful that we can call on Him, and He will help us in bad times.

The Holy Spirit's job is to point us to someone else, and that someone is God - as Jesus showed Him to us. Since the work of God's Holy Spirit is showing us about God, and Jesus, we really don't know a lot about Him. It is like looking into the sun. We are blinded by its light. We are not able to look directly into the light. However, we can see everything else by the light of the sun. The moon is visible because it reflects the light of the Sun. It is that way with the Holy Spirit. His purpose is to light the way to Jesus and to God. He reveals, by His light, God for whom all of us have a hunger.

What we know of the Holy Spirit is through the Bible which He inspired; and which He helps us understand. Most of us have no idea how tiny microchips work in a computer... how they store enough information to fill a library...how we can ask them for information and they give it back to us exactly like it was entered into them. But, there is someone who can explain that, because someone built the microchip and others know how it works. The Holy Spirit reveals God and Jesus to us because He knows all about God. He is the Spirit of Truth and He will speak only truth to us.

Life Application:

The Holy Spirit speaks to all of us at one time or another. He tells us there is a God who wants to be in our lives. When the Holy Spirit speaks to us in this way, we have a choice to make. We can stop listening to the Holy Spirit. When we do this we say, "No, I don't want to hear what you have to say . . ." This is a dangerous thing to do because we don't know when we will have another opportunity to listen to the Holy Spirit as He tells us about God.

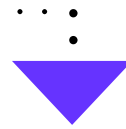
Thank goodness that's not the only choice. When the Holy Spirit speaks to us we can keep listening. As we listen and realize that God truly loves us, we want to place our trust and confidence in Him. This is what it means to accept God's great gift of salvation.

Where are you right now? Are you trying to do things your own way, telling the Holy Spirit that you don't want to hear what He has to say? If you are, stop and think a minute. How have things turned out when you do it all on your own? Not so good? And are you happy, really happy, with all the stuff you have filled your life with? Do you realize that you have filled your life with so many things because of the "God hunger" that we all have? You are trying on your own and it hasn't worked. Will you give God an opportunity, right now?

Maybe that's not you. Maybe you have accepted God's great gift of salvation by listening to the prompting of the Holy Spirit in your life. Did you know that the Holy Spirit keeps prompting us, even after salvation? He convicts us of sin in our lives. He guides us to truth. He teaches us. Are you letting Him have control daily or are you trying to work for God on your own strength? Remember, it's impossible to do His work without His power. Let God stay in control of your life and you'll be amazed at all that will happen!



Planning for Lesson 21
The Holy Spirit: He Helps Us, and
He Speaks to Us



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Bring an electric fan to class. Attach streamers to the electric fan and have it running when your students arrive. Use this to explain the Holy Spirit according to John 3:8. Be sure to practice the memory verse.
- ◆ Bring feathers or balloons to class. Encourage your students to keep their balloon or feather in the air by blowing it. Talk about the wind being like the air we blew in keeping the balloons or feathers suspended.
- ◆ Make windsocks, kites, or pinwheels to demonstrate the power of the wind.
- ◆ Play “Holy Spirit Bingo.” Create Bingo cards. Fill the squares with names of the Holy Spirit or with characteristics of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Do experiments that show how wind works or that give students an idea of the characteristics of wind and air.
- ◆ **Dig Deeper:** Encourage your students to research windmills. How do they work? What do they do? Then read from John 3:1-17 and discuss Nicodemus’ conversation with Jesus.



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and you hear the sound of it,
but do not know
where it comes from
and where it is going;
so is everyone
who is born of the Spirit.
John 3:8***

**The Holy Spirit
will speak only**

t _ u _ _

to us.

Word Search



W	D	N	I	S	P	T	I	R	I
I	E	V	T	I	R	I	P	S	N
N	N	E	R	K	N	W	I	R	T
D	O	N	O	T	K	N	O	W	H
A	Y	U	S	A	N	B	L	H	W
T	R	U	R	E	L	O	S	E	H
R	E	Y	D	O	K	N	O	R	E
E	V	E	W	B	O	R	A	E	H
D	E	S	O	U	N	D	E	R	Y
O	N	E	B	S	P	R	T	I	V

Complete the memory verse. Find the missing words in the word search above.

The _____ where it wishes and you _____ the _____ of it,
 but _____ it comes from and where it is going;
 so is _____ who is _____ of the _____. John 3:8

Word Search



W	D	N	I	S	P	T	I	R	I
I	E	V	T	I	R	I	P	S	N
N	N	E	R	K	N	W	I	R	T
D	O	N	O	T	K	N	O	W	H
A	Y	U	S	A	N	B	L	H	W
T	R	U	R	E	L	O	S	E	H
R	E	Y	D	O	K	N	O	R	E
E	V	E	W	B	O	R	A	E	H
D	E	S	O	U	N	D	E	R	Y
O	N	E	B	S	P	R	T	I	V

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