

FELLOWSHIPING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT



A. The redeemed have been given a two-fold gift that will forever be the greatest and most momentous within the scope of humanity. First, through Jesus's sacrifice and our repentance, God forgives us of our lawless deeds that go against Him and His created order. Secondly, we see the Creator giving Himself to humanity as a gift. Not only did God forgive humanity for their wicked ways, but He also took up residence within them. As we know, this latter gift is the giving of His Spirit. Paul clearly states in Eph. 1:13-14 that we, "having believed...was sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of your inheritance" (cf. 1 Cor. 6:19; 2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5). Within the believer the eternal Trinity dwells, resulting in a Gift that will only be surpassed by the Gift's increase at Christ's return. To this end, our focus today will be on the significance of the Person of the Holy Spirit.

And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. Romans 5:5

And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Galatians 4:6

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. Romans 8:15-17

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. 2 Corinthians 13:13

B. As portrayed throughout the NT, the Holy Spirit is depicted as being fundamental to a Christian's ability to stand firm in the faith. Commentators and scholars alike indicate there is an inherent Spirit-realism in Paul's writings. They do this by highlighting the following:

- 1. The many ways the NT references the personhood of the Holy Spirit** (e.g., Rom. 8:26-27; 2 Cor. 13:14; Col. 1:27; cf. John 14:16-17; 16:12-15; Acts 5:3-5).
- 2. How dynamic and vitally important the experience of the Holy Spirit is to the Christian experience** (e.g., Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 3:16-17; Phil. 3:3).
- 3. The way Paul conceives of the existential significance of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.** The Spirit is God's way of being present, powerfully present, in our lives and communities as we await the consummation of the kingdom of God. Paul understood the Spirit as God's personal presence, but he also understood the Spirit always in terms of an empowering presence; whatever else, for Paul, the Spirit was an experienced reality.

C. Paul clearly articulates that God is the confirmer/ guarantor/ establisher of our eternal salvation. The verb tenses in these verses are worthy of note. God's guarantee of His perpetual action toward His people resulting in their Christward focus rests upon a single action, which indeed is three implementations of the Holy Spirit. It is those who have both received and preached Christ, who have God as the guarantor of their place in Christ (present tense; action in progress), for He has:

- 1. Anointed us (completed action)**
- 2. Set His seal on us (completed action)**
- 3. Put His Spirit in our hearts (completed action)**

D. God's ongoing assurance of our Christwardness is the result of His indwelling Spirit. These three closely connected actions directly relate to this truth. The first draws upon the imagery of OT anointings of priests and kings (e.g., Exod. 29:7; Lev. 8:12; 1 Kings 9:16; cf. Isa. 61:1-3) while also signifying that we are Christ's people ("God christed us Christward"). The second is a mark of ownership and authenticity — for it is the Spirit that is the seal of ownership, making us His ultimate possession. Finally, it is the Spirit in our hearts that God has placed as a deposit, guaranteeing a full settlement of the transaction in the future.

E. The Spirit is both the seal and the deposit of our salvation. Furthermore, each one of these present truths is eschatological in nature — for as Paul stated in Eph. 6:13, we put on the whole armor of God to "withstand in the evil/ wicked day." Those who don God's armor are the eschatological messianic community of the New Covenant, those who have been sealed by the Holy Spirit for the day of Redemption, and who have received the indwelling presence of God's Spirit as the down payment of what is to come in fullness (cf. e.g., Eph. 1:13; 4:30; 2 Cor. 3:3, 6).

GRACE  CHURCH

Services
Sunday at 9 & 11 am

FELLOWSHIPING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

WHAT'S
NEXT?



October 1, 2023

4701 Illinois Route 111
Granite City, IL 62040

GraceEast.org
618.797.9910



GRACE KIDS EAST

GLOW!

Mon, Oct 23 6 - 7:30 PM
4 years - 6th Grade

FUN!
FOOD!
FELLOWSHIP!
PRAYER!

DIVING IN!

Sign up:
jmckinney@GraceSTL.org



WOMEN OF GRACE

Fall Gathering

Sat, Oct 21 • 6:30 pm

Soup, Chili & Carmel Apple Bar



Sun, Oct 29 @ 10:15 am

Baptism CLASS

Baptisms follow the 11 am service!

More Info: markallenperkins6@gmail.com
or 618-920-9712 or stop by the Info Desk



SUN, OCT 1 • 5 - 7 PM • GYM

**YOUTH GRADES 6-12!
AT THE CHURCH!**

GAME NIGHT!

Fun, food & games!

Questions? Contact Daniel Schafers @
314.221.0118 or dschafers@GraceSTL.org



GRIEF CONFERENCE

healing the BROKENHEARTED

Sat, Oct 28
8 am-3 pm

Main Campus

*Find help through
the heartache of grieving*

Register by Mon, Oct 16
Lunch provided



SMALL GROUPS & PRAYER

S.M.I.L.E	SUN	10:15 AM	Gym Room 103	Kyle & Wendy Knight	beveryblessed@yahoo.com	636-485-3827
Stretching/Scriptures	MON	9:30 AM	GCE Gym	Evelyn Harris	evharris@charter.net	618-558-7989
Ephesians	MON	6:00 PM	Gym Room 103	Lynette Kozer	lkozer77@gmail.com	618-781-2744
James	TUE	10:00 AM	GCE B5	Marilyn Davis	saverdixon@gmail.com	618-709-2371
Womens Bible Study	TUE	6:30 PM	Gym Room 103	Kasey C. & Katie V.	kayy85@aol.com	618-420-2008
Bible Study	TUE	6:30 PM	Cook's home	Terry & Pam Cook	cook.terry@yahoo.com	618-789-3362
Jesus & Women	WED	11:30 AM	Kozer home	Lynette Kozer	lkozer77@gmail.com	618-781-2744
Youth Bible Study	1st & 3rd SUN	11:00 AM	GCE B3	Daniel Schafers	dschafers@gracestl.org	314-221-0118
YAM-Young Adults	2nd & 4th SUN	6:30 PM	Gym Room 103	Jackson Moore	moorejackson116@gmail.com	618-580-9114