

Introduction:

The Doctrine of the Trinity helps us to fully understand we have one God in three persons: the father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In the Bible, the Father is declared as God in Philippians 1:2. The Son is declared as God in Titus 2:13 and the Holy Spirit is declared as God in Acts 5:3-4. Each play distinctive roles.

Let's revisit the Creation narrative and you will hear how the Holy Spirit played a very important part in creation. Read Genesis 1:2

What was the Spirit doing?

Where can we see this clearly? Turn your Bibles to the baptism narrative? See Mark 1:10-11.

What is the Father doing? _____

What is the Son doing? _____

What is the Holy Spirit doing? _____

Many years ago I learned it this way:

The Father is God **around** us.

The Son is God **with** us.

The Holy Spirit is God **in** us.

Please understand the Holy Spirit is not a thing, but a person! He is part of the Godhead.

There was never a time that the Godhead did not exist. They have always been and will always be.

Look at John 16:7-8 KJV. Underline the pronouns that refers to the Holy Spirit in verse 8.

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send **him** unto you.

⁸ And when **he** is come, **he** will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

In this study, we will study the Holy Spirit and come to a full awareness of who He is. The study of the Holy Spirit is called pneumatology. Pneumatology is the branch of Theology that deals with the Holy Spirit.

Pneumatology teaches us that the Holy Spirit is a Person, with a mind, emotions, and will. The Holy Spirit is Jesus' "replacement" on earth. Let's consider John 14:16-26; 15:26; 16:7.

Read the above mentioned Scriptures.

Where was Jesus going? What did Jesus promise to leave them?

Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Comforter. In the Greek, the word Comforter is known as the *Paraclete* or *parakletos* (which means alongside).

How does knowing this encourage you?

How reassuring do you think this was to the disciples knowing that He was leaving, but He was leaving them a Comforter?

Do you really think they fully comprehended what He was saying?

The Difference in the Old Testament

In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit would come "upon" individuals. See the examples below:

- In 1 Samuel 16:14 and 18:12, the Holy Spirit departed from King Saul.
- In Psalm 51:11, David begged God not to take the Holy Spirit from him.

The Spirit came upon certain judges, warriors, and prophets in a way that gave them extraordinary power: for example, Joshua (Num. 27:18), Othniel (Judg. 3:10), Gideon (Judg. 6:34), Samson (Judges 13:25; 14:6), and Saul (1 Sam. 10:9-10).

Revisit John 16:8, 12-14.

List some of the things the promised Comforter will do:

The Fruit of the Spirit Read Galatians 5:22-23

What are the nine attributes of the Holy Spirit?

When you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior each of these nine attributes were planted on the inside of you in seed form. What must be done in order for those seeds to grow?

He, the Comforter, is able to help you "grow" or enhance any of these areas in your life.

Lesson #2. The Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts