

CHURCH OF JUDAH

THE HOLY SPIRIT COURSE

Week 1: Who is the Holy Spirit? (His Identity & Nature)

Introduction

Welcome to the start of a transformative journey. Over the next month, we will explore the person and power of the Holy Spirit. However, before we begin, you must answer one vital question:

Will this course simply be information in your life, or will you allow God to change your life through His Word?

Throughout Scripture, men and women who encountered God were never the same. In this course, you are going to meet the Holy Spirit. The choice is yours: will you accept Him or reject Him?

The Person of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit can often feel mysterious, but the Bible provides a clear image of who He is. He is not a vague "force" or "energy"—He is **fully God**. As the third person of the Trinity, alongside the Father and the Son, He possesses a **mind**, a **will**, and **emotions**.

From "Upon" to "Within"

In the Old Testament, we see the Spirit of God move *upon* people for specific tasks. Today, because of Christ, there is a powerful shift: He lives *in* us.

- **Genesis 1:2 & 1:26:** From the beginning, the Spirit was present in creation. God said, "*Let Us make man in Our image,*" acknowledging the triune nature of the Godhead.
- **John 14:16–17:** Jesus promised a **Helper** (the Spirit of Truth) who would not only be with us but would **be in us** forever.
- **1 Corinthians 6:19:** Your body is now the **temple** of the Holy Spirit. You no longer belong to yourself; you are the dwelling place of God.
- **Romans 8:9:** Having the Spirit is the very mark of belonging to Christ.

The Key Difference: He isn't just hovering around you anymore; He resides within you.

Deeper Teaching: The Nature of the Spirit

1. A Divine Person

The Holy Spirit is a complete, divine Person. "Divine" refers to the nature and essence of God—anything that originates from and reflects His holy, supreme, and supernatural character.

2. The Power of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the active power of God in the world today:

- **In Creation:** He brought order to chaos.
- **In Communication:** He speaks the will of the Father.
- **In Regeneration:** He gives us new life (the "New Birth").
- **In Empowerment:** He equips us for the work of the Kingdom.

Evidence of His Personality

The Bible treats the Holy Spirit as a person, not an object. Consider these attributes:

Attribute	Scripture Reference	What it means
He Speaks	<i>Acts 13:2</i>	He gives specific instructions and callings.
He Has a Will	<i>1 Corinthians 12:11</i>	He decides how to distribute gifts as He sees fit.
He is God	<i>Acts 5:3-4</i>	To lie to the Holy Spirit is to lie directly to God.
He is Omniscient	<i>1 Corinthians 2:10-11</i>	He knows everything, even the deep things of God.
He has Emotions	<i>Ephesians 4:30</i>	He can be grieved by the way we live.
He is Everywhere	<i>Psalms 139:7-8</i>	He is omnipresent; there is nowhere you can go to escape His presence.

Summary: Relationship Over Knowledge

The goal of this week is to move beyond "knowing about" the Spirit and move toward **knowing Him**. We are called to build a relationship, not just a folder of notes.

Application & Reflection

1. **Personal Prayer:** Begin talking to the Holy Spirit daily. Instead of only addressing "God" in a general sense, acknowledge the Helper who lives inside you.
2. **Self-Examination:** Do I treat the Holy Spirit like a person I love, or a "force" I try to use?
3. **Awareness:** Looking back at your walk with Christ, when have you felt His presence or His grieving over a specific choice?

Memory Verse for Week 1:

"Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself." — 1 Corinthians 6:19