

A Sure Foundation

The beliefs that we build our lives on

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

MONTH 2

INTRO

READ:

WEEK 1 - Acts 1-7

WEEK 2 - Acts 8-12

WEEK 3 - Acts 13-20

WEEK 4 - Acts 21-28

We cannot really know God without knowing His Spirit. The Spirit is given distinct recognition, yet is a part of God, an expression of Him; like knowing His character or integrity or personality. The Spirit is not an it, but a He because the Spirit is God, the very breath of Him. To treat Him as anything less is a blasphemy that we are strongly warned against.

Yet often we treat the Spirit as a third and not totally necessary wheel. We aren't sure what to do with Him. We fear incorporating Him into an active role in our life because we dare not be confused with those groups that we consider too charismatic. We secretly fear what He may call us to, or think that He would somehow chose to deceive us. We are much more comfortable trusting in God's written word than we are in His very breath of life, yet God writes to us over and over of the essence of His Spirit as central to a saving, transforming relationship with Him. We can, and must, learn to know this Spirit and embrace Him as fully God. For the next four weeks we will look at what is not welcomed by the natural man, but becomes the familiar to those who have the mind of Christ! (Read 1 Corinthians 2:10-16)

WEEK 1 - The Ruah of God

- the activity of the Spirit in the Old Testament
- the Holy Spirit in the life of Saul 1 Samuel 10-28
- God's breath at Pentecost and in the early church Acts 1-7

WEEK 2 - The Presence and Purpose of the Holy Spirit

- Promised by Jesus
- A deposit and seal
- Visions and transformations Acts 8-12

WEEK 3 - Mystery and Misconceptions about the Spirit of God

- Differing views
- Is our reaction to the reality of the Spirit, or the views of man?
- Mistaken for gods, fools, and rules Acts 13-20

WEEK 4 - Personal choices about the Spirit

- Are we fanning or quenching?
- Are the fruits of changed living evident?
- Speaking up, locked up and shipwrecked Acts 21-28

MEMORY VERSE:

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

2 Corinthians

3:17,18

GOD'S SPIRIT IN JOHN

John has much to tell us about the Spirit of God. He first mentions the Spirit in chapter 1, using the Greek word pneuma for Spirit. It means a current of air or breath. The spirit is the breath of God. It means the rational soul, the vital principle, or the mental disposition. (Meyers) The Spirit is who God is.

How does Jesus explain the Spirit of God to Nicodemus in John 3:5-8? _____

Why do you think this was one of the first concepts that Jesus wanted to explain to him? _____

John uses a word for the Spirit - paraclete - that the other writers of the Bible did not use. It means an advocate or intercessor, like a defense attorney in a trial. It can also mean comforter, or someone that proclaims or exhorts. (Kysar 11-14)

What do we learn about the Paraclete from John in the following passages?

John 14:16-17 _____

John 14:25-26 _____

John 15:26, 27 _____

John 16:7-8 _____

John 16:12-14 _____

Why do you think the Holy Spirit did not come until Jesus left? _____

What was the world's attitude going to be toward the Spirit? _____

What is the relationship of the Spirit with the Father and the Son? _____

PUZZLE CLUES

Across

- sent to lay hands on Saul so that he would be healed and filled with the Spirit Acts 9:17
- number of Spirit filled men chosen to serve Acts 6:3
- came to rest with the Spirit Acts 2:3
- the Spirit compelled Paul to go here Acts 20:22
- repeated the Holy Spirit's warnings to Paul Acts 21:10,11
- miraculous ones were done by the apostles Acts 2:43
- God showed His by giving the Holy Spirit Acts 15:8
- where the Spirit took Philip Acts 8:39
- poured on men and women Acts 2:18
- Saul rebuked him while full of the Spirit Acts 13:9,10
- the Holy Spirit Acts 2:38
- the coming of the Spirit sounded like this Acts 2:2
- the Holy Spirit warned Paul of these Acts 20:23
- the crowd was able to do this in their own language Acts 2:8

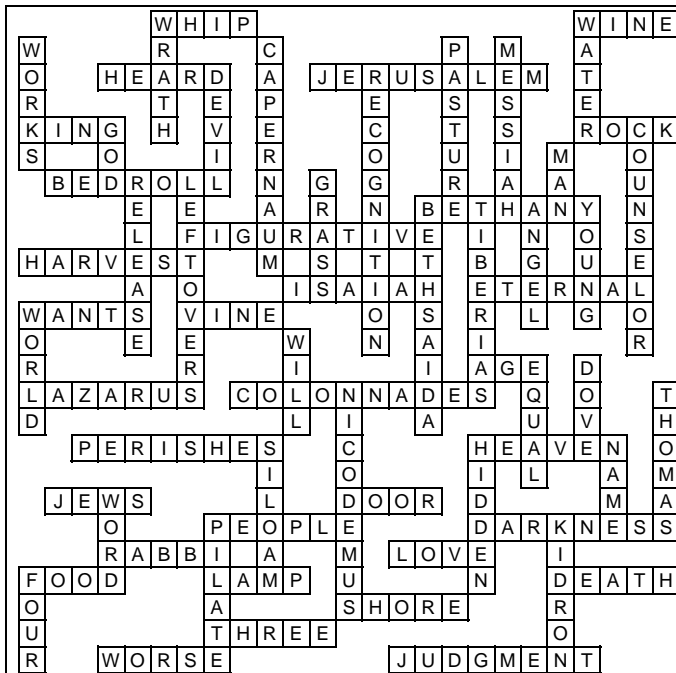
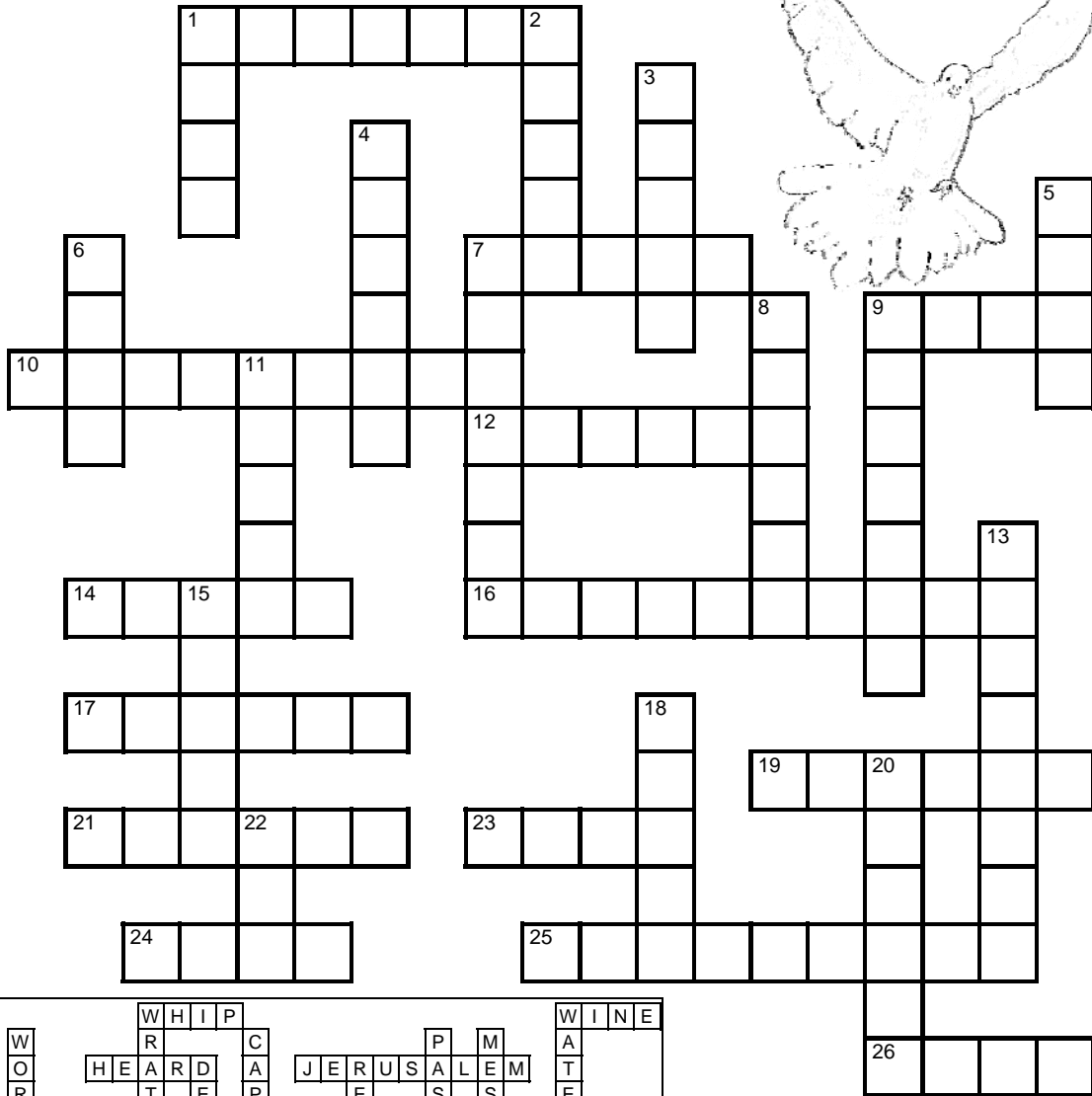
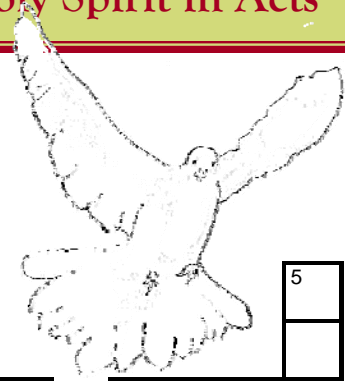
Down

- the Holy Spirit prevented Paul from preaching here Acts 16:6
- Stephen _____ by the Spirit Acts 6:10
- received when the Spirit comes Acts 1:8
- the Spirit's presence made the believers speak this way Acts 4:31
- prophet quoted in Acts 2
- what Ananias did to the Spirit Acts 5:3
- people here received the Spirit after Peter and John put their hands on them Acts 8:14-17
- stiff-necked people do this to the Spirit Acts 7:51
- the Spirit spoke to the believers at Antioch while they were doing this Acts 13:1,2
- wanted the ability to give the Spirit Acts 8:18,19
- received the Spirit even before being baptized Acts 10:45-47
- Stephen saw God's Acts 7:55
- filled with the Spirit Acts 4:8
- the Holy Spirit spoke through this prophet Acts 28:25
- the Spirit sent three of them to Peter Acts 10:19



PUZZLE PAGE

MONTH 2 - The Holy Spirit in Acts



WANT TO READ WHAT I READ?

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN JOHN p. 2
 Meyers, Rick. e-sword. 12 Nov 2007.
<http://www.e-sword.net>

Kysar, Robert. "What's In a Name." The Contemporaries Meet the Classics on the Holy Spirit. Comp. Randall Harris. West Monroe, LA: Howard Publishing, 2004. 11-13.

MONTH 1 PUZZLE ANSWERS