

DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Week 1: Foundations of the Holy Spirit



MODULE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

Week 1: The Person of the Holy Spirit

Week 2: The Work of the Holy Spirit

Week 3: The Spirit in the Believer's Life

THE HOLY SPIRIT – FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

Pneumatology

Explores the personhood, divinity, and works of the Holy Spirit, including sanctification, spiritual gifts, and inspiration.

Pneuma (Greek) – “spirit” or “breath”

Logos (Greek) – “teaching”

Divine Personhood

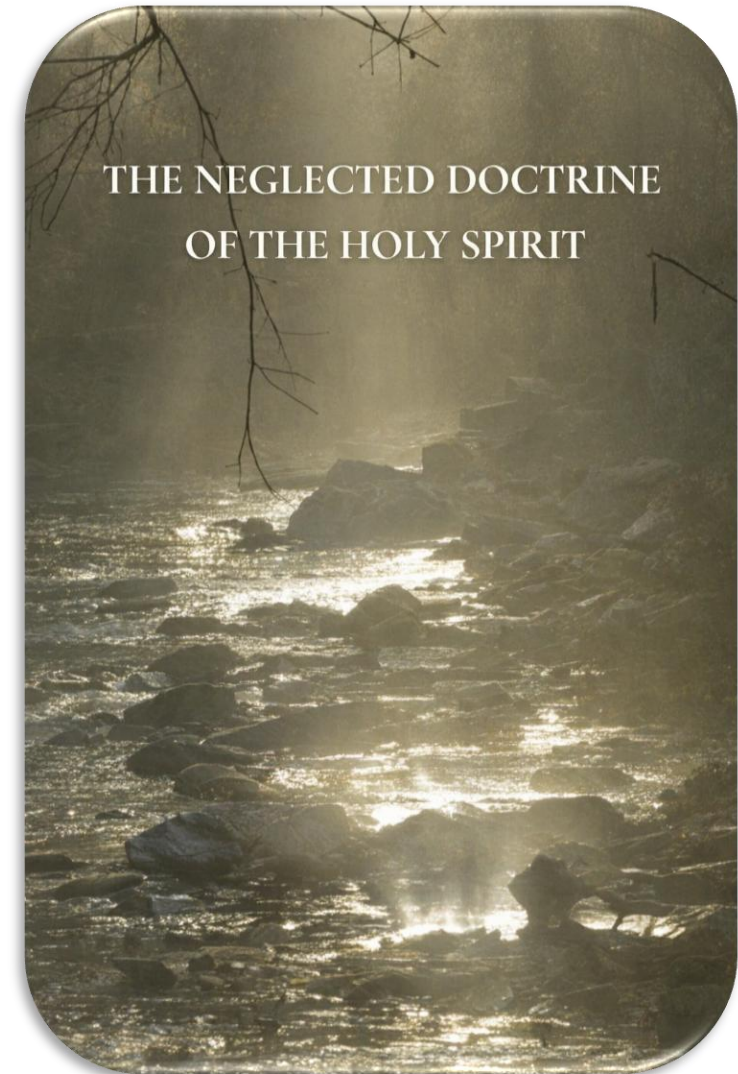
The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, fully divine and co-equal with the Father and Son, not merely a force.

Manifests Presence

The Holy Spirit’s equality and distinction within the Trinity reflect the deep mystery of God’s nature, implementing on earth all accessible work of God.

Attributes of the Holy Spirit

Eternality, Holiness, Omnipresence, Omniscience, Truth, Omnipotence, and Omnibenevolence





HOLY SPIRIT'S DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: ETERNALITY

God's Eternal Nature

God exists beyond time, having no beginning or end, and sees all history simultaneously.

- He is the timeless Lord and “the Everlasting God” (Isaiah 40:28)

Holy Spirit's Eternality

The Holy Spirit shares in God's eternal nature, always existing and active throughout history.

- Involved in creation (Genesis 1:2)

Trust in Divine Timing

God's perspective transcends human time, acting in perfect timing that we can trust.

- “But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.” (2 Peter 3:8)

DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: HOLINESS

Holiness as Divine Nature

The Holy Spirit inherently possesses eternal holiness as the very being of God, distinct from created beings striving for holiness.

- Jesus was “declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.” (Romans 1:4)

Holiness in the Trinity

Holiness expresses the love and unity between the Father and the Son within the Trinity.

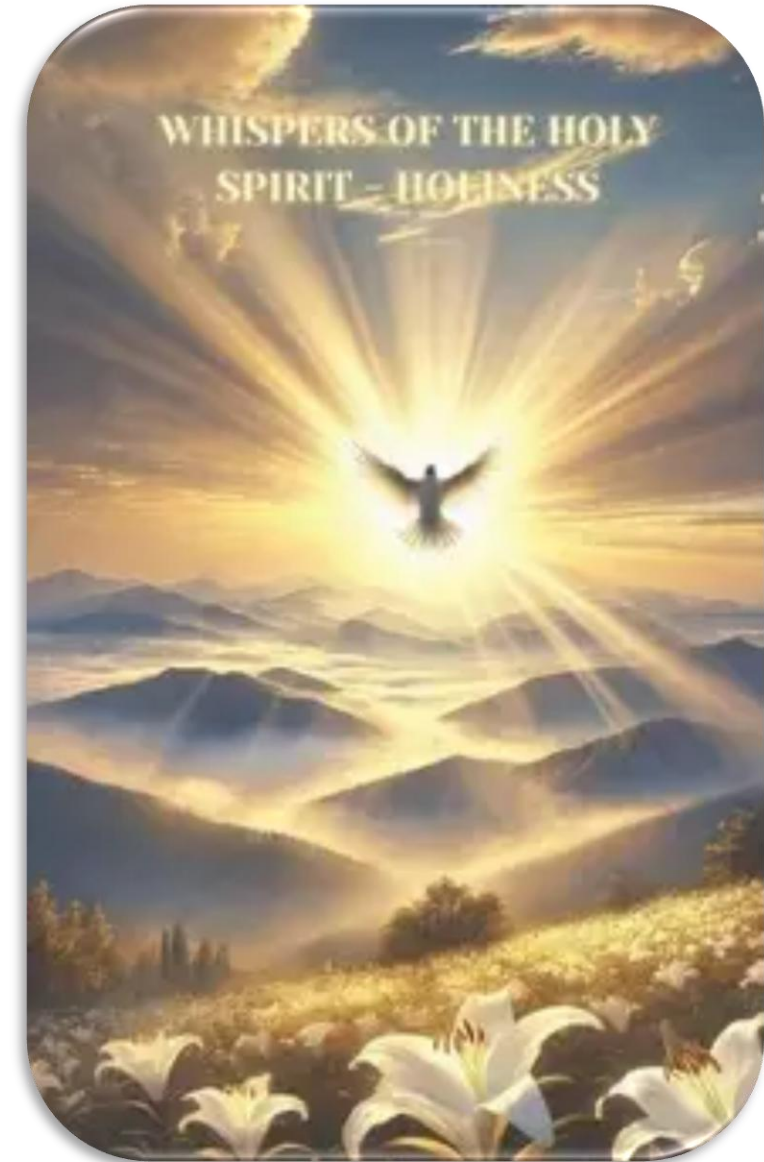
Call to Reflect Holiness

Hebrews 12:14 exhorts us to “pursue peace with all people and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.”

Transformative Power of the Spirit

The Spirit enables believers to overcome sin and grow in righteousness, becoming more Christ-like.

- He convicts of sin (John 16:8)
- Produces spiritual fruit (Galatians 5:22-23)



DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: OMNIPRESENCE

Meaning of Omnipresence

Omni - (Latin) “all”

The Holy Spirit is present everywhere at all times!

- “Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?” (Psalm 139:7)

Comfort and Guidance

God's constant presence offers believers comfort, guidance, and strength throughout life.

- Holy Spirit lives within us (1 Cor. 6:19) and makes his dwelling in our hearts (2 Cor. 1:22; Gal. 4:6)
- “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” (Psalm 46:1)

Unity of Believers

Omnipresence connects believers worldwide into one spiritual body, transcending differences.

- The church is described as the “universal church that covers the earth” and “against which the gates of hell will not prevail” (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 1:22–23).



DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: OMNISCIENCE

Complete Divine Knowledge

The Holy Spirit possesses perfect knowledge of all things, including human thoughts and God's deepest truths.

- "The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God... no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God". (1 Cor. 2:10-11)

Revealing Spiritual Wisdom

The Spirit reveals divine wisdom to believers, helping them grasp spiritual truths beyond human reasoning.

- Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will "teach you all things" (John 14:26)

Guidance and Accountability

Omniscience guides believers in wise decisions while holding them accountable with perfect understanding.

Trustworthiness of God

Spirit knows God's will and understands the needs of the believers, so guidance is based on perfect knowledge and truth, empowering them in every situation.

- *"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth..."* (John 16:13)



DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: TRUTH

Guidance into Truth

The Holy Spirit guides believers by illuminating Scripture and revealing God's will in their lives.

Intercession and Support

The Spirit intercedes and supports believers by expressing prayers when words fail them.

Transformative Truth

Truth through the Spirit transforms character and actions, empowering authentic Christian living.

- **John 14:16-17** - “and I will ask the father, and he will give you another advocate to help you, and be with you forever- the Spirit of truth. The world cannot except him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”



DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: OMNIPOTENCE

Unlimited Divine Power

Omnipotence means the Holy Spirit has unlimited power to create, sustain, and direct all things perfectly.

- “the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters,” (Genesis 1:2)

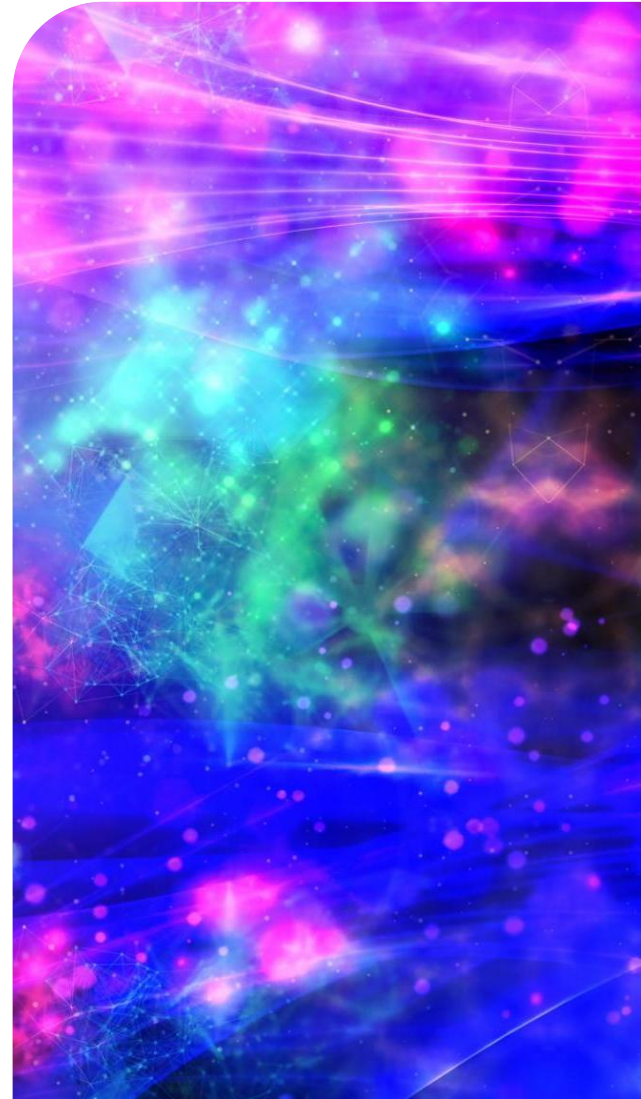
Miracles and Transformation

The Spirit’s power is shown in miracles and personal transformation in believers’ lives, enabling growth and renewal.

Vastness of Creation

God’s omnipotence is reflected in the vast universe, from galaxies to microscopic life, showcasing infinite power.

- **Jeremiah 32:17** – “Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.”





DIVINE ATTRIBUTE: OMNIBENEVOLENCE

Perfect Goodness and Mercy

Omnibenevolence signifies God's infinite love, mercy, and justice extended unconditionally to all.

- *Omni* (Latin) – “all”
- *Benevolent* – “good” or “charity”

Unconditional Divine Love

God’s love is freely given, not based on merit, offering comfort and guiding believers toward righteousness.

- “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)
- “And this is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” (1 John 4:10)

Inspiration for Kindness

The Spirit’s love inspires believers to practice kindness, forgiveness, and unity in relationships.

- “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive yours.” (Matthew 6:14-15)

SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OVERVIEW

Fire as Purification and Passion

Fire symbolizes purification and spiritual passion, showing how the Spirit refines and ignites fervor within believers.

Water as Life and Renewal

Water represents life, renewal, and spiritual refreshment, highlighting the Spirit's role in revitalizing faith.

Wind as Divine Power

Wind or breath signifies life and divine power, reflecting the invisible yet powerful presence of the Spirit.

Dove as Peace and Purity

The dove symbolizes peace and purity, representing the Spirit's gentle and calming influence.





SYMBOL: FIRE

Fire as Divine Presence

Fire symbolizes God's presence and power, guiding and empowering believers throughout biblical history.

Purification and Refinement

Fire represents purification, removing impurities and refining believers' character and spirit.

- **Exodus 14:24** – “Pillar of fire in the desert guiding Israel” and providing light.
- **Exodus 3:2** – “Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a blazing fire”
- **Acts 2:1-4** – Tongues of fire fell at Pentecost, and the disciples received baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- **1 Peter 1:7** – faith is being tested like fire tests and purifies gold”



SYMBOL: WATER

Spiritual Life and Renewal

Water symbolizes the Spirit's role in providing spiritual life, renewal, and refreshment to believers.

- Signifies the life-giving, refreshing, regenerating, spiritual cleansing power of the Spirit for the believer. (John 7:37-39)

Continuous Presence

Water's flowing nature illustrates the ongoing and dynamic presence of the Spirit sustaining life continually.

Faith and Nourishment

Faith in the Spirit, like living water, satisfies the soul's deepest needs and nourishes spiritual vitality.

SYMBOL: WIND OR BREATH

Invisible Yet Powerful Presence

Wind symbolizes the Holy Spirit's unseen but deeply impactful presence in believers' lives.

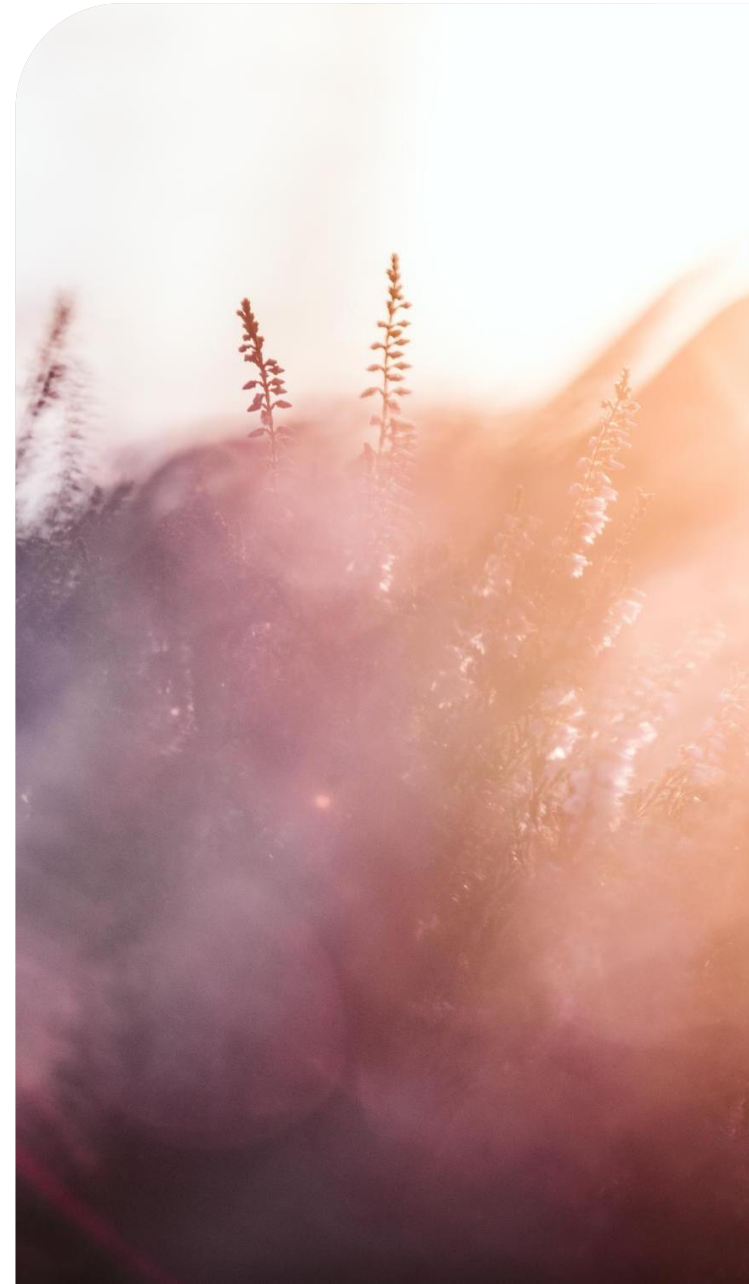
Breath as Life

Breath represents life itself, reflecting how the Spirit brings spiritual renewal and sustenance.

Freedom and Sovereignty

Unpredictable wind illustrates the Spirit's freedom to act according to divine will beyond human control.

- **John 3:8** – “The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the spirit.”



SYMBOL: DOVE

Dove as Holy Spirit Symbol

The dove symbolizes the Holy Spirit, representing peace, purity, and divine presence during Jesus' baptism.

Qualities of the Dove

Doves embody gentleness, calmness, and loyalty, reflecting qualities believers should emulate in their spiritual life.

Symbol of Peace and Harmony

Unlike aggressive pigeons, doves symbolize harmony, encouraging believers to pursue peace and spiritual faithfulness.

- **John 1:32** – “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove, and He remained on Him”
- **Matt. 3:16-17** – “When Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on Him.”



APPLICATION: STRIVE TO BE LIKE A DOVE

Embody Peace and Humility

Strive to embody peace, humility, and calmness through the Holy Spirit's guidance in daily life.

Promote Unity and Harmony

Avoid conflict and territorial attitudes to foster unity and harmony among believers as the Spirit encourages.

Devotion and Faithfulness

Maintain faithfulness to Christ and a strong relationship through devotion inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual Growth and Transformation

Rely on the Spirit for continuous growth, aligning life with God's will for deeper spiritual fulfillment.

Dove

- Won't fight
- Doesn't like loud noises
- Not territorial
- Mate for life

Pigeon

Known to fight
Doesn't mind noise
Very territorial
Can have several mates.

