

THE ROLES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Key Scripture: John 14:16

Of all the gifts given to mankind by God, there is none greater than the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit has many functions, roles, and activities. First, He does a work in the hearts of all people everywhere. Jesus told the disciples that He would send the Spirit into the world to “convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:7-11). Everyone has a “God consciousness,” whether or not they admit it. The Spirit applies the truths of God to minds of men to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners. Responding to that conviction brings men to salvation.

Once we are saved and belong to God, the Spirit takes up residence in our hearts forever, sealing us with the confirming, certifying, and assuring pledge of our eternal state as His children. Jesus said He would send the Spirit to us to be our Helper, Comforter, and Guide. “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever” (John 14:16). The Greek word translated here “Counselor” means “one who is called alongside” and has the idea of someone who encourages and exhorts. The Holy Spirit takes up permanent residence in the hearts of believers (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 12:13). Jesus gave the Spirit as a “compensation” for His absence, to perform the functions toward us which He would have done if He had remained personally with us.

Discussion Points

- 1 **What are the key functions of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer?**
*John 14:16, John 14:26, 1 John 2:27, 1 Corinthians 2:13,14, John 16:12-13
John 16:13*
- 2 **How do we experience the influence of the Holy Spirit**
*John 16:8, Acts 2:36, Acts 9:6, Acts 16:30, 1 Cor 12:7, 1 Corth 12:11, Rom 8:
26-27*
- 3 **What are the six different promises a Christian can stand on from the Holy Spirit?** *Isaiah 11:1-4*
- 4 **How do you plan to experience more of the effect of the Holy Spirit?**