

Session 1 | The Person of the Holy Spirit

◆ 1. The Holy Spirit: Up Close & Personal

AJW's Story

1. **1973** – Saved during the Jesus People Movement (see *When Jesus Met Hippies*)
2. **1986** – Filled with the Spirit as a young pastor at a Birmingham conference
3. **2025** – Current 'liturgy': *"Holy Spirit, thank you I'm your temple"*

✨ *Personal devotion:* [Ephesians 3:16–19](#) & [Romans 5:5](#) have become living prayers.

◆ 2. The Holy Spirit is God

Divine Person – Not a force or feeling!

- **Equal with the Father and the Son**
 - See: [Matthew 28:19](#); [1 Cor. 12:4–6](#); [2 Cor. 13:14](#); [Eph. 4:4–6](#); [1 Peter 1:2](#)
- **Deity clearly stated**
 - [Acts 5:3–4](#) – Lying to the Spirit = lying to God
- **Born of the Spirit = Born of God**
 - [John 3:3,7](#) ⇔ [John 1:13](#); [1 John 3:9](#)

A Person, not a Power

- **Mind** – [Romans 8:27](#)
- **Will** – [1 Corinthians 12:11](#)
- **Emotions** – [Ephesians 4:30](#); [Isaiah 63:10](#)

👉 You can't grieve a chair-leg! He is *relational*.






◆ 3. The Holy Spirit in the Trinity

The Trinity = Divine Relationship

- Son **sent by** the Father ([John's Gospel](#))
- Spirit **sent by** the Son ([John 16:7](#))

Perichoresis (Gk.): an eternal “dance” within God – Father, Son & Spirit in perfect unity.

◆ 4. Pictures of the Spirit

Symbol	Meaning	Key Scriptures
 Dove	Peace, purity, love, sacrifice	Gen. 8:8-10 ; Matt. 3:16 ; Lev. 1:14 ; Song of Songs 2:14 <i>New creation begins with Jesus’ baptism</i> (2 Cor. 5:17)
 Wind	Power, unseen movement of God	John 3:8 ; Acts 2:2 ; Isaiah 40:7
 Fire	Purity, presence, judgment	Matt. 3:11-12 ; Acts 2:3 ; Exodus 3:2
 Oil	Anointing for service	Acts 10:38 ; 1 John 2:20, 27
 Water	Refreshment, life, renewal	Isaiah 44:3 ; John 7:37–39 ; Titus 3:5-6

◆ 5. The Spirit in Community

The Spirit is for the *whole* Church, not just individuals.

- Many New Testament commands are *plural* (e.g. [Eph. 5:18](#) – “be filled” = you all)
- Western mindset often reads Scripture too individually.

AJW’s Message: *How to make the Holy Spirit feel at home in your church*

Negative	Positive Opposite
Resisted? (Acts 7:51)	Welcome Him
Grieved? (Eph. 4:30)	Please Him
Quenched? (1 Thess. 5:19)	Fan the flame!

Ephesians shows the Spirit working through the Church:

- *Sealing* ([1:13–14](#))
 - *Inhabiting* ([2:22](#))
 - *Educating* ([3:4–5](#))
 - *Unifying* ([4:3](#))
 - *Filling* ([5:18](#))
 - *Arming* ([6:18](#))
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Reflect & Respond

- Do I relate to the Holy Spirit as a Person or a concept?
 - Am I cultivating space for the Spirit in *my* life and in *our* church?
 - What metaphor (wind, fire, water, etc.) speaks to me most right now?
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Let the Holy Spirit not just be a doctrine—but a living presence in your life and community.