

**Text: The Holy Spirit –
The Best Kept Secret**

August 28, 2011
Pastor Steve Burdick
Galatians 5:1, 16-25

I. Who is the Holy Spirit?

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.” – John 14:16-17

- The Holy Spirit is a **PERSON**
- The Holy Spirit is our **COUNSELOR**

“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.” – Ephesians 1:13-14

- The Holy Spirit is our **DEPOSIT**

II. What does the Holy Spirit do?

III. How should we respond to the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 5:1, 16-25

Living Under Law vs. Living by the Spirit

1.	Committing to <u>SOMETHING</u>	Vs.	Committing to <u>SOMEONE</u>
2.	Following a <u>LIST</u>	Vs.	Following a <u>PERSON</u>
3.	Focusing on the <u>GUARD RAILS</u>	Vs.	Focusing on the <u>PERSON</u> in front of you
4.	Following <u>DIRECTIONS</u>	Vs.	Following a <u>PERSON</u> to get you to a location

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” – Galatians 5:25

- Walk by the Spirit → **TRUST**
- Keep in step with the Spirit → **OBEDY**

Time with God

Memory Verse: *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

Monday

Think back over last weekend’s sermon. How have you previously thought about the role of the Holy Spirit in your life?

Please read Acts 1:1-11. What is most striking to you about this? Put yourself in the disciples’ shoes: What do you think they were expecting?

What did you learn about the Holy Spirit’s role in your life from last weekend’s sermon? How has that impacted you?

Thank God today that He has given you the Holy Spirit. Thank Him for the opportunity to study and learn about His role in your life. Pray that as you study this week you will be open-minded and ready to grow!

Tuesday

Please read Acts 2:1-13. How does the Holy Spirit give the disciples power over obstacles in this story?

How have you personally seen the Holy Spirit give power to overcome obstacles?

What obstacles are you currently facing?

When are you tempted to act in your own power instead of waiting for the Holy Spirit to intervene?

Talk to God today about the obstacles you are currently facing. Pray that you will be willing to wait for His timing and power to overcome. Ask God to use this week of studying the power of the Holy Spirit to grow you spiritually.

Wednesday

Please read Matthew 14:26, John 20:19 & Acts 4:13-35. These verses give us a “before and after” picture of the disciples. What do you think the disciples feared before?

How did the power of the Holy Spirit change their fear to courage?

In what ways have you personally seen the power of the Holy Spirit help you overcome a fear?

How do you need that right now?

Thank God today that you do not have to be shackled to fear. Thank Him for the power the Holy Spirit provides to overcome fear. Talk to God about the struggles with fear you are facing right now. Pray that you will rest in the Spirit’s peace, comfort and timing.

Thursday

Please read Romans 8:1-9, I Peter 3:18. So often it can feel as though sin has all the power and we have none. What do these verses teach about the power the Spirit gives you over sin?

How have you experienced that in your life?

What sin are you struggling to overcome?

What is the difference between trying to overcome in your own strength and overcoming by the Spirit’s power?

Thank God today that you are not subservient to sin. Pray about the sin(s) you’re struggling with right now. Lay that struggle at the feet of Jesus and pray for victory in the Spirit’s power.

Friday

Please read Romans 8:10-11. The Spirit’s power over death gives so much hope! How does this encourage you today?

Spend a few moments meditating on this today: “the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you...”

How can that truth impact you today?

Thank God today that He is more powerful than death. Thank Him that the same power that resurrected Jesus is available to you. Pray that you’ll grow in your understanding of the Spirit’s work in your life.

Saturday

Please be sure you’re caught up on this week’s devotions and know this week’s memory verse. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that Bayside West will be a beacon of hope in our community.