

THEME: THE HOLY SPIRIT

TOPIC: THE HOLY SPIRIT FORMING CHRIST WITHIN US

TEXT: ROMANS 8:7-12; 2 CORINTHIANS 2:12; GALATIANS 4:19

INTRODUCTION

The Holy Spirit is the promised Divine helper who proceeds from the Father and Son. The Spirit is God's presence and power in the world and indwells believers. By the Holy Spirit, God inspired and illuminates the Scriptures; convicts and regenerates sinners; sanctifies, teaches, comforts, guides, and preserves believers and empowers them for service. Evidence of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life is faith in Christ, obedience to God, and the spiritual fruit of love.

The Holy Spirit Forming Christ within Us - Ephesians 3:16-19

1. In Christ dwelling in our hearts – Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did. – 1 John 2:6
2. In our being rooted and established in love.
3. In our being given the power to grasp with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth of Christ's love, as well as to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge.
4. In our being "filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

Q: Practically speaking, how is Christ formed within a believer living in the world today?

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SONSHIP

1. The Holy Spirit leads the believer into life as a son.
...those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. – **Romans 8:14**
For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear. – **Romans 8:15a**

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." – **Romans 8:15**

Q: What are the characteristic traits of a Son?

2. The Holy Spirit testifies to our sonship.
For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. – **Romans 8:15-16**

Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." – **Galatians 4:6**

Q: What does being a son give to us as believers?

Conclusion

The primary work of the Holy Spirit is to form in us the very image and stature of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. To be Holy Spirit formed is to be part of the ongoing work of creation. Without the Spirit, we are subject to sin, decay, and death. But life in the Holy Spirit, as the Bible says, is righteousness, peace, and joy (Romans 14:17). May the good work of the Spirit continue to transform our lives until that day of resurrection and glory in the kingdom of God, for which all of creation continue to yearn for.

Prayer

Lord I pray that the Holy Spirit will have its way in my life such that Christ will indeed be formed in every area of my life in Jesus name. Lord help me to understand my place as a 'Son'.