

## Sermon Guide: Spirit | Susan Reddy | Oct 29, 2023

In this message, Susan Reddy delves into the role and significance of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. She begins by introducing the idea of “spirit,” explaining its various meanings in Hebrew and emphasizing the Spirit’s power and importance. She encourages us to see the Holy Spirit not just as a term to study, but as a person through whom we know, love, worship, and draw closer to the Living God.

Susan then discusses the transformative power of the Holy Spirit, highlighting how he brings joy, power, and perspective into the lives of believers. She shares a personal testimony of how the Holy Spirit empowered her to fulfill a calling to teach God's word, emphasizing that nothing is impossible with the Holy Spirit's power and ability. Susan also emphasizes the importance of God speaking to us through His word, reminding the congregation that God wrote the Bible and uses it to draw us closer to Him.

Susan further explores the role of the Holy Spirit in empowering individuals. Susan uses examples from the Old Testament, such as Moses and David, to illustrate how the Holy Spirit anointed specific individuals for specific purposes. She also discusses the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus, emphasizing that Jesus relied entirely on the Holy Spirit for everything he did on Earth.

Susan then focuses on the role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers today. She highlights especially how the Holy Spirit gives new life and brings joy to believers.

### Key Takeaways:

- The Holy Spirit is not just an idea to study, but a person through whom we know, love, worship, and draw closer to the Living God. He brings joy, power, and perspective into the lives of believers. ([12:45])
- The Holy Spirit played a crucial role in the Bible, anointing specific individuals for specific purposes. He empowers us today for the roles that God calls us to. ([36:15])
- The Holy Spirit gives new life and brings joy to believers. He transforms our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh, enabling us to respond in faith and believe in Jesus as our Savior and Lord. ([48:50])

### Discussion Guide:

#### *Bible Reading:*

1. Genesis 1:1-2: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."
2. Acts 2:1-4: "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."
3. Ephesians 1:13-14: "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you 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."

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in the creation story in Genesis 1:1-2?
2. What does the event of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4 reveal about the transformative power of the Holy Spirit?
3. What does Ephesians 1:13-14 tell us about the Holy Spirit's role in the life of a believer?

**Application Questions:**

1. Reflect on a time when you felt the Holy Spirit's power in your life. How did he work in your life and empower you to do what God called you to?
2. How can you be more open to the Holy Spirit's guidance in your daily life, similar to the disciples on the day of Pentecost?
3. Can you think of a situation this week where you can rely on the Holy Spirit's power, just as Jesus did during his time on Earth?