

# Radical Reliance on the Holy Spirit

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I. Introduction. The Holy Spirit orchestrates events and circumstances around a person to form Christ in him.

II. The nature of the Holy Spirit.

A. The Holy Spirit is not a thing—He is a person.

B. The Holy Spirit is God. (Acts 5:3)

III. The work of the Holy Spirit.

A. The Spirit is active in creation.

B. The Spirit is active in revelation—in Scripture. (II Samuel 23:2)

C. The Spirit works to interpret dreams. (Genesis 21)

D. The Spirit worked in Jesus in His birth, resurrection and glorification. (Romans 8:11)

E. The Spirit is given to convict the world of sin. Apologetics is important, but the work of the Spirit is necessary.

F. The Spirit regenerates. (John 3, Titus 3:5, I Corinthians 12:13, Romans 6:1-4)

G. The Spirit seals the believer with a guarantee of inheritance.

H. The Spirit of God invites us into an experience beyond the five senses.

I. The Spirit fills. (Ephesians 5:18, Ephesians 1)

1. There is a command to be filled, but not baptized in the Spirit.

2. One is to keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit.

3. One cannot be filled by the Spirit by direct effort—it is a matter of dependence.

4. Our spiritual growth is a matter of dependence. (Romans 15:16)

5. Filling does not equal maturity but it results in it.

6. Filling has to do with how much of a person the Spirit has, not how much a person has of the Spirit. (Romans 12:1)

7. What it means to be filled by the Spirit.

a. It is giving up control. (I Thessalonians 5, Proverbs 3:5, Romans 6:16)

b. It is not holding onto sin. (Ephesians 4:30, Psalm 66:18, I John 1:9)

c. It is depending upon the Lord as a way of life. (Galatians 5:16, John 15, II Corinthians 5:7)

IV. The work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

A. Prayer and using the Word in faith in the right time and in prayer and love gives us the capacity to help people. (Matthew 12, Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:2, Ecclesiastes 8:5)

B. Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit, and He wants to bestow upon us the same power. (Isaiah 11:1-5)

**Application questions:**

1. How would you describe the work of the Holy Spirit?

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2. What is the filling of the Holy Spirit?

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3. Why is the work of the Spirit so critical for ministry? How should one go about obtaining the power that the Spirit offers for this? Explain.

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