

You Shall Receive Power

“Who Is The Holy Spirit?”

John 14:16-26

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Apr 23, 2017

1. The Holy Spirit isn't a thing, a phenomenon, or a cosmic force. The Holy Spirit is a HE—a person!

John 14:17,26

¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees **him** nor knows **him**. You know **him**, for **he** dwells with you and will be in you...²⁶ ...the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **he** will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Cults such as Jehovah's Witnesses teach that the Holy Spirit is an impersonal force. The Bible teaches that He is a person, and that He is God. Although Jesus is leaving the Apostles, He will be sending another Person in the Godhead to be with them—and us—forever!

What about you? What difference does it make to know the Holy Spirit isn't an impersonal force, but an actual person?

2. The Holy Spirit was sent to be our HELPER.

John 14:16,26

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **Helper**... ²⁶ But the **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name...

Jesus promises to send a helper to take His place, empowering and enabling us to do all God has called us to do.

3. The Holy Spirit doesn't simply visit, but is at HOME within us!

John 14:17,23

¹⁷ ...for he **dwells** with you and will be in you...²³ we will come to him **and make our home with him**.

“The Spirit dwelt ‘with’ the Old Testament saints through the community but would not be ‘in’ them individually and intimately (John 14:17) [since] the Old Testament saints could not have enjoyed the benefits of the new covenant before it had been inaugurated.”

Pettegrew, Larry Dean. *The New Covenant Ministry Of The Holy Spirit*. 1st ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2001. Print. 27-28.

What about you? How does knowing the Holy Spirit permanently lives within you impact you? Is it different than Him coming and going as needed? Why or why not?

4. The Holy Spirit enables us to **HEED** God’s Word.

John 14:21,23

²¹ Whoever has my commandments **and keeps them**, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”...²³ Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, **he will keep my word**,

1 John 3:24

²⁴ Whoever **keeps his commandments** abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

What about you? Think of one area of your life in which you need specific help being obedient to God’s Word. Do you sense the Holy Spirit growing and changing you?

5. The Holy Spirit inside you is **BETTER** than Jesus beside you!

John 14:12

¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; **and greater works than these will he do**, because I am going to the Father.

Jesus started something that no one else could do. As New Testament Christians, we have the unique ability to do *greater* works than Jesus did. The impact of the Church is greater, reaching more people in more places than Jesus ever did during His earthly ministry.

“Don’t mock those who overestimate their potential for the kingdom of God. Mock those who underestimate it.”

Greear, J.D. *Jesus, Continued*. 1st ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014. Print. 63.

What about you? How much impact do you plan on having for the kingdom of God? How would your life change if you took seriously Jesus’ promise that you’ll do greater works than He did?