

The Holy Spirit and Spirituality – Part 9

The Holy Spirit and the church

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Holy Spirit and Spirituality. Our topic today: The Holy Spirit and the church

Scripture Theme Song: The fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)

- 1) The Holy Spirit unites with Jesus in building His church
 - a) Jesus said, "I will build My church." Matthew 16:18
 - b) Ephesians 2:18-22—built together in the Spirit
 - c) How does the Holy Spirit unite with Jesus in building His church? John 16:7-13
 - d) How did the Holy Spirit lead you to connect with the church Jesus is building?
- 2) The Holy Spirit unites us with Christ and His church through baptism
 - a) 1 Corinthians 12:13
 - b) How old should a person be before he or she can be baptized?
 - c) What is the significance of being baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit"?
 - d) How does baptism bring about "the forgiveness of sins" (Acts 2:38)?
 - e) Acts 2:41,47 Why are baptism and uniting with Christ's church inextricably linked together?
- f) What counsel would you give to a friend who said to you, "I want to be baptized but I don't want to be added to the church. I went to a church one time and it was full of hypocrites"?
- 3) The Holy Spirit unites the church in faith and doctrine through the Word of God
 - a) Acts 2:42
 - b) Acts 17:11
 - c) Ephesians 4:4-6
 - d) John 17:17-21—some suggest we should find unity in the Spirit and not worry about the teachings of the Word of God. How does the Word of God help us to find unity in Christ?
 - e) Some churches experience divisions due to different doctrinal views among their members. How can we experience unity in the Spirit in spite of different opinions regarding certain interpretations of Scripture?
- 4) The Holy Spirit unites the church in mission and service
 - a) Acts 2:1-4
 - b) Acts 4:31
 - c) Acts 8:3-8—only possible after the promise of Jesus in Acts 1:8 was fulfilled.
 - d) How can we prepare to receive the empowerment of the Holy Spirit for mission and service? John 14:15-18
 - e) Share a time when you experienced unity with other believers by the Holy Spirit as you were involved in mission and service.