

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Introduction

Go outside (if its not raining) and just stand still. What do you feel?

Is your hair moving?

Is it cool?

Are the trees moving?

The same can happen indoors if we have a fan going in the hot weather or a fan heater when it is cold.

Yes, it is the wind/air moving. We are convinced it is the wind even though we can't see it. We can't see the wind but we can see what it is doing.

Do you know what that reminds me of in the bible?

Shall I give you a hint? An amazing gift left for us when Jesus returned to heaven to be with his Father.

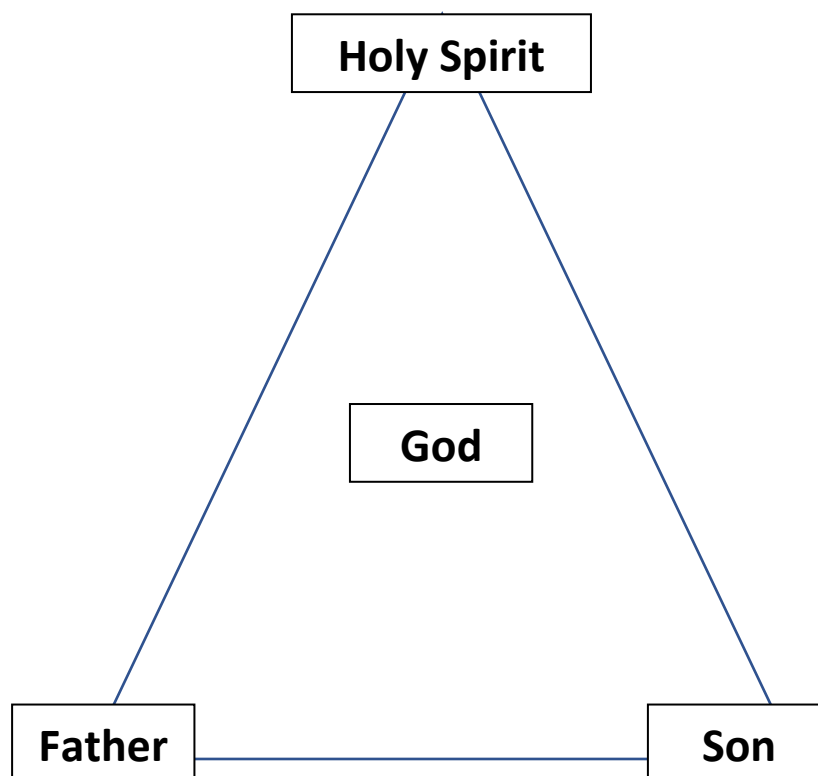
Jesus promised us a helper and that helper is.....the Holy Spirit

We don't see the Holy Spirit because He lives inside of those of us who have made Jesus our Saviour.

But just like the wind from a fan or outside we can't see the Holy Spirit, we know that it's there.

In the Bible the Holy Spirit is described as fire, wind, dove, river, fountain

Let's chat about the Holy Spirit - In the Bible we can see God as 3 distinct parts. Together we call them the Trinity (each has different jobs to do, but they're all still the same Person—God)



God the Father - the Creator and Ruler of the world.

Then there is God the Son - Jesus Christ, who was God as man. He came to Earth to forgive us for our sins and bring us into the kingdom and God.

Then there is God the Holy Spirit - the part of God that lives on in each of us when we accept Jesus Christ into hearts as our Saviour. He is in our character, our personality, our heart – he helps you to be your best.

Where can you find the Holy Spirit in the Bible

Sometimes we think of the Holy Spirit as one who came once Jesus went to heaven. Instead, we need to remember that the Holy Spirit is God, so He has always existed and has always been working in the world. In the Old Testament he filled people with power at different times and that power allowed them to do amazing things. Now we call have the Holy Spirit all the time.

The Holy Spirit appears in nearly every book of the Bible.

The Holy Spirit first appears in the second verse of the Bible, in the account of creation:

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. (Genesis 1:2, NIV).

The following verses give us picture of the Trinity in the Bible:

Matthew 3:16-17

As soon as Jesus (the Son) was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven (the Father) said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (NIV)

Matthew 28:19

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (NIV)

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (NIV)

Where next

We have looked at who the Holy Spirit is over the next few weeks we will be looking at the Holy Spirit in our lives – our guide, teacher, comforter, changer – our helper.

"I [Jesus] will ask the Father. And he will give you [believers] another Friend to help you and to be with you forever. The Friend is the Spirit of truth [Holy Spirit]. The world can't accept him. That is because the world does not see him or know him. But you know him. He lives with you, and he will be in you ... the Friend is the Holy Spirit. He will teach you all things. He will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:16–17, 26).

You can also look at Acts 1:1-5 and Acts 2:1-18

Older young people - Here are some ways you can see the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament:

- the Holy Spirit helped in creation (Genesis 1:2).
- the Holy Spirit helped people have faith. In Hebrews 11, we see many names of people from the Old Testament who had faith to believe.
- the Holy Spirit "indwelt" people, or lived in them (1 Samuel 16:12–13). This is different than in the New Testament where he lives in believers all the time. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit would come to someone for a time so they could complete a task.
- the Holy Spirit helped people serve. The Holy Spirit gave a man named Bazalel the ability to make the artwork in the tabernacle (Exodus 31:2–5).

Think about one way in which you need the fire of the Holy Spirit to burn in you more brightly or a new direction that you would like the wind of the Holy Spirit to blow you.

Things to do

- Make wind catcher out of an empty plastic bottle. Make sure it is clean. Decorate with permanent markers. Ask a grown up to help you cut a spiral up the bottle. Stick on ribbons/streamers and make a loop to hang it outside (I've hung mine on my line post).



- Make a flag
- Make some streamers to blow in the wind.
- On a piece of paper write or draw the words fire and maybe a picture of a flag blowing in the win. Think about the effects of fire and wind and write them down e.g. fire warms, can be a light, wind makes a yacht sail, a kite fly, the washing blow.

Prayer

Father God. Today I am asking you for.....

I'm looking for.....

Thank you that you promise to give the Holy Spirit to all who ask.

It is the Spirit that gives life. John 6:63