

## We Believe: Article 6 – The Holy Spirit Sunday: 10/15/2023 – Pastor Lenard Tavernelli

*“We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.”*

### Overview:

This week Pastor Lenard taught us from Article 6 from the Statement of Faith. This article speaks to us about the Holy Spirit. Pastor Lenard brought clarity to the subject that often gets confused by many in the church. What is basic in word sometimes gets lost in practice. The Holy Spirit is a person, a member of the Trinity. Many incorrectly see the Spirit as an unseen impersonal force. This is so far from the truth and is in the truest sense blasphemous. The Holy Spirit is personal. He is our counsellor and our helper.

As Jesus prepared to depart, he introduced his disciples to the advantage we have with the Holy Spirit, that God would come to us, bring conviction, and guide us. The Spirit by the will of God provides his people gifts for his Kingdom. The Holy Spirit seals us, meaning we are identified as his Children. We are part of the family of God. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit should not only manifest gifts in our lives, he unifies us as a body and should produce a spirit in us of thankfulness and praise for Jesus.

### Outline:

- The Person of the Holy Spirit. (clarity on his personhood). John 14:16, Acts 5.

#### John 16:4-15

- The Ministry of the Holy Spirit: John 16:4-15
  1. The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ in evangelism (4b-11)
    - a. The Holy Spirit benefits the church for our mission. John 15:26-27
    - b. The Spirit glorifies Jesus by declaring him (v12-15).
  2. The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ in conversion. 1 Corinthians 12:1-3
    - a. John 3:3-5, Ezekiel 36:25-27, Romans 8:15
  3. The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ in Discipleship<sup>i</sup>

#### 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

1. The Spirit gives a variety of gifts for the common good (4-11)
2. The Spirit unites the variety of members into one church (12-13)

#### Philippians 2:3-4

### Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit first convict you of sin?
  - a. How does the Holy Spirit’s ministry of conviction occur in the lives of unbelievers?<sup>ii</sup>
2. The Statement of faith uses clear language to identify the Holy Spirit as a person.
  - a. How do improper views of the Spirit and his Ministry pervert the truth of his personhood?
3. The third sentence of the statement (read it as a group), speaks to regeneration and baptism in the Spirit. It speaks to our identity changing through adoption into the family of God.
  - a. What is regeneration?
  - b. How can baptism in the spirit be taken the wrong way or abused?
4. The last sentence (read it) of the article speaks to what the promise of the Spirit means? What does Christ-like living and service mean for you?
  - a. What steps do you need to take to use the gifts the Spirit has given you?

### Article 6 with references: The Holy Spirit

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ (Jn. 16:14). He convicts the world of its guilt (Jn. 16:8; 1 Cor. 2:14). He regenerates sinners (Ezek. 36:25-27; Jn. 3:3, 5; 1 Cor. 12:3; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 2:5; Col. 2:13; 1 Thess. 1:4-5; 2 Thess. 2:13; Tit. 3:5; Jms. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:3), and in Him they are baptized (Mk. EFCA SOF with Scripture References: 3 3 1:8; Acts 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:13) into union with Christ (Rom. 3:24; 5:15-21; 12:5; 1 Cor. 1:2; 5:19; 15:22b; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 1:22; 2:17; 3:28; Eph. 1:4; 2:12; 3:6; 4:32; 2 Tim. 2:10; 1 Thess. 4:16) and adopted as heirs (Rom. 8:15, 23; 9:4; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5; Tit. 3:7) in the family of God (Matt. 12:49-50; 2 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 3:14; 1 Jn. 3:14-18). He also indwells (Jn. 14:17; Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 3:16), illuminates (1 Cor. 2:2; 2 Cor. 4:4-15; Eph. 1:17-19; Phil. 1:9-11), guides (Jn. 16:13; Acts 15:28; Rom. 8:4, 14; Gal. 5:16, 18), equips (Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12: 4-10; Eph. 4: 7-11; 1 Pet. 4:10-11) and empowers (Acts 1:8; 10:38; Rom. 15:13; 1 Cor. 12:11; Eph. 3:16; 2 Tim. 1:7) believers for Christ-like living and service (Acts 6:8; Rom. 8:4-6, 12-16; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 3:3, 5; 5:22-23, 25; Eph. 2:22; 4:3; Phil. 2:1-2).

GATHER – GROW - PRACTICE - GO

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<sup>i</sup> Outline following Evangelical Convictions, 2nd edition, 115-124

<sup>ii</sup> ECFA SOF Teaching Document #6, 5.