

Lesson 18

The Holy Spirit – Our Helper and Guide

1. Who is the Holy Spirit?

Answer: The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. He is the gift of God, who shares His life with all mankind. He is our helper and guide. He strengthens us to help us follow Christ with faith and love. He is the Love between the Father and Son.

2. After the Pentecost, how did the Holy Spirit help the disciples in their mission?

Answer: At Pentecost, God the Father poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit on the disciples to give them strength and power to proclaim the message of the Gospel. Filled with courage they became more like Christ ready and able to continue the work of Christ.

3. What marks the beginning of the church?

Answer: Pentecost marks the start of the Christendom's first church.

4. When did we first receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit?

Answer: We first received the Gift of the Holy Spirit at Baptism.

5. In the Acts of the Apostles, mention 3 Bible characters where we see a transformation through the power of the Holy Spirit?

- ✚ Peter, being filled with the Holy Spirit, stood up boldly to preach the word of God on the day of Pentecost.
- ✚ The young Stephen, full of the Spirit, saw the glory of God when he was stoned and
- ✚ The conversion of Paul – the persecutor who became an Apostle.

6. How did the early Christians bear witness to Jesus in their lives?

- ✚ **Fellowship** – The church became a community of believers who was of one heart and one mind in Christ and who shared their goods and possessions.
- ✚ **A witnessing church** – where the believers all day long, in the church and in their homes would teach and proclaim Jesus as “God’s anointed one”
- ✚ **A Sacramental Church** - The Church was an ‘outward sign’ of the indwelling presence of Jesus. They experienced his presence in the breaking of the bread and radiated this presence in their love and concern for everyone.
- ✚ **Became a serving church** – serving and caring for the spiritual and temporal needs of all – They spent their lives, healing, comforting, forgiving, teaching, feeding, loving and so on.
- ✚ **An institutional church** – It had officials and people of authority.