

We Believe in the Holy Spirit (*Various Texts*)

EFCA Statement of Faith, Article 6

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.

Who the Spirit Is

- The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity
 - Like Jesus, He is fully God
 - And as a member of the Trinity, He glorifies the other members (John 16:14)
- The Gospel authors make it clear that the work that Jesus did was through the power of the Holy Spirit (Matt 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:32)
- And it through the Holy Spirit that followers of Jesus experience the presence and power of God (John 14:16-17)

What the Spirit Does to Us

- He convicts us of our sinfulness & need for Jesus (John 16:8; 1 Cor. 2:14)
- He regenerates us to be more like Jesus (Tts. 3:5; 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; Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:3)
- He enables us to be united with Christ (Eph. 4:4-6; Rom. 3:24; 5:15-21; 12:5; 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:19; 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)
 - Symbolized through baptism (Mark 1:8; see Act 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:13)
- This union makes us adopted children of God (Rom 8:15, 23; Matt. 12:49-50; Rom. 9:4; 2 Cor. 6:18; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5; 3:14; Tts. 3:7; 1 Jn. 3:14-18)

What the Spirit Does through Us

- With this new identity, the Spirit:
 - Indwells us (Rom 8:11; Matt 9:17; John 14:17; 1 Cor 3:16)
 - Enlightens us (Heb. 10:32; 1 Cor. 2:2; 2 Cor. 4:4-15; Eph. 1:17-19; Phil. 1:9-11)
 - Guides us (Jn. 16:13; Acts 15:28; Rom. 8:4, 14; Gal. 5:16, 18)
 - Empowers us (1 Cor. 12:11; Acts 1:8; 10:38; Rom. 15:13; Eph. 3:16; 2 Tim. 1:7)
- This is all so we can live like Jesus (John 14:12, 16; 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).

So What?

- If we have surrendered our lives to Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit dwelling inside us
- Are we living through the Spirit's power?