

## The Holy Spirit Moves—The Breath of God

**Opener:** What do you think of when you hear the word “spirit”?

**Scripture:** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>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 1:1-2

Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, <sup>6</sup>but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. . . . <sup>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” Gen. 2:5-7, 15

“But now, Job, listen to my words; pay attention to everything I say. <sup>2</sup>I am about to open my mouth; my words are on the tip of my tongue. <sup>3</sup>My words come from an upright heart; my lips sincerely speak what I know. The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life. Job 33:1-4

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 alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven (the Father) said, “This is my Son (Jesus Christ), whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:16-17 (parentheses added)

### Discussion Questions

1. As we begin this series on the Holy Spirit, let’s start with the Trinity. The Trinity is an essential doctrine for Christians. It holds that God is one being consisting of three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and coeternal. How do these three reveal different aspects of God’s nature and how do they work together? Do you have any specific questions about the Trinity? (See Matthew 3:16-17 above for an example of the Trinity at work.)
2. The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity and undoubtedly the least understood. Christians can easily identify with God the Father and His Son, Jesus. The Holy Spirit, however, can seem distant. Why is that? How did you learn about the Holy Spirit and what’s your impression of Him?
3. The Holy Spirit first appears in the second verse of the Bible in the creation account. What was the Holy Spirit’s part in creating the world and everything in it? Genesis 1:1-2; 2:5-7
4. From these few verses in Genesis, what do we learn about the state of the earth when God created it? How do they describe how and why man was created? What can we learn about God’s character from this creation account? Genesis 2:6-7, 15
5. How does Job 33:4 acknowledge the Holy Spirit’s role in creating us? How does this compare to what evolution says about the origin of man?
6. Do you have to believe God created the world if you’re a Christian? Why or why not?

**Wrap Up:** It’s impossible to understand creation, the Bible, the church, or our relationship with God without understanding the Holy Spirit. A member of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit had no beginning and has no end. With the Father and Son, He existed before creation and was instrumental in creation. And He is not distant—the moment we receive Christ as Savior He comes to live in us. In fact, no one can be a Christian or follow Christ without the Holy Spirit. If you think the Holy Spirit is vital, you’re not wrong.