

# Overflow: The Holy Spirit

Bethany Assembly of God

7.14.2024

**Central Proposition: You can experience the personal presence of God.**

## **Introduction**

Today, as we continue our series called Overflow, we're talking about something that can make people a little nervous. We're talking about God's personal presence in our lives through the Holy Spirit. When Jesus died and rose again, He opened the door for the Holy Spirit to bring the personal presence of God into the life of everyone who believed in Him. This gift is not for a select few, but for everyone who believes in Jesus. In fact, you aren't a Christian without the Holy Spirit's presence. True Christianity is a relationship with God through faith in Jesus that is brought to us by the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives. God wants you to know Him. He wants you to experience His presence. He wants you to listen to His voice, and He sent the Holy Spirit into our lives to make this a reality. Jesus, through the Holy Spirit's presence in your life, stands at the door and knocks. He calls your name. Will you respond? Will you open the door to an increased experience of God's personal presence? Here are two keys to opening that door.

**1. You should expect the Holy Spirit to lead you.** See Psalm 139:1-18.

The first thing we need to know about the Holy Spirit is that He is a person. That realization opens the way to perceiving that we are not just supposed to know *about* Him but to know Him and therefore, to know God. How do we come to know the Holy Spirit? The Bible helps us to get to know the Holy Spirit. This experience is unique since the Scriptures were inspired by Him. So, as we read His Word with the awareness that He is present and speaks to us and is interceding for us, we grow to know Him—not just about Him—but to know Him personally. And, because of the Holy Spirit's personal presence and work in Christians, we should be looking for His leadership; we should expect it. He wants you to draw near to Him by faith, to listen to Him, to wait for Him, to expect His leadership.

**2. You should learn who He is and what He does.** See Psalm 139:17-18; Romans 8:6-8; Galatians 5:22-23.

Of course, that leaves us with the question of how we can be sure the Holy Spirit is the one speaking and leading us. This primarily comes from knowing what God's Word teaches us about the Holy Spirit and also from experience. The Holy Spirit knows the mind of God and reveals God to the believer. When we are saved, the Spirit resurrects us from spiritual death, an inability to know God and a rebellious heart against God, and He changes us so that we can know God's presence and actually begin to desire what God desires. The corollary of this is that the Holy Spirit convicts of sin and produces a disdain for it.

**Conclusion: Not just learn and do, but listen and obey.**

You should expect the Holy Spirit to lead you and you should learn who He is and what He does. But remember, the point of this is that you can experience the personal presence of God in your life. That is the privilege of every believer. Your relationship with God is not just about learning and doing. That is a religious idea. Christianity is about the personal presence of God in your life and in the church. Sundays are

important for us to worship together, grow together, serve together, pray together, encourage and challenge each other, and learn together, but your walk with the Holy Spirit takes place every other day as well.