

The work of the Holy Spirit in the development of spiritual growth

Each chapter of the book Growing Towards Spiritual Maturity has dealt with what a Christian experiences as they strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ. The book has provided us with insight, tools and direction to help us in our journey to spiritual maturity. The Holy Spirit plays an important role in the spiritual growth of the Christian.

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who[b] is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

The Holy Spirit was sent as a Helper, a Comforter and Encourager for our Christian journey. He lives inside of us and He is our number one Resource for spiritual living. The Holy Spirit seals believers; we are marked as God's property through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:30

30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

As children of God and fellow heirs with Christ, we have the assurance that God desires us to experience spiritual growth—we are not meant to become stagnant and stale. God provided the Holy Spirit as a means of keeping us connected to Him and communicating with Him. Our job is to recognize the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and to pray for greater recognition of His leading and guidance.

John 14:16-17

16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

1 Corinthians 6:19

19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

There are specific roles and functions that the Holy Spirit has in the life of the Christian. These roles help the believer live the life that God intended for them. They are meant to help with growth and reaching maturity. The Holy Spirit:

Convicts- John 16: 8-11

8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Teaches and Illuminates- John 16:12-15

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. **13** However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. **14** He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. **15** All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.[a]

Guides- Romans 8:14

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Assures- Romans 8:16

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

Intercedes- Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us[a] with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Directs- Acts 20:22

22 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there,

Warns- Acts 20:23

23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.

The Holy Spirit is from God and knows the mind of God and has the power to share His knowledge with us. As we strive to grow in spiritual maturity, we should ask the Holy Spirit to give us better understanding of and to help us with those areas that we have challenges in.

1 Corinthians 2:11-12

11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. **12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

Pray and Ask the Holy Spirit to make you more sensitive to His leading

Pray and Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the ways that He is working in your life

Pray and Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you on your journey towards spiritual maturity