



# LESSON 5

**The Holy Spirit  
Who is He?**



# *Scriptures:*

**Gen. 1:2; 2:7**

**Psalm 33:6**

**John 14:26**





*At the end of this session, you should be able to*

**1** understand the Holy Spirit as an important part of the Trinity, able to be presence, power, and person.

**2** appreciate the two-fold nature of baptism  
– water and the Holy Spirit





In 2014, Robert Charles Sproul began his discourse on the Holy Spirit with the question: Do we take the role of the Holy Spirit seriously in our lives? It is not without reason, he adds, that the Holy Spirit has been called the neglected person of the Trinity. Ralph Del Colle (2001) applies lexicon like trinitarian pneumatology, christological notion and enhypostasis in his argument to arrive at the conclusion that the Holy Spirit moves from presence to power to personhood in scripture. Let us look at when we first learnt of the Holy Spirit in Genesis and then what Christ Jesus says of Him and see if we can answer the question: Who is the Holy Spirit? Genesis 1:2 presents Him as presence. 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. See? He is first a presence. Now let's look at Gen. 2:7

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.

**AND**

By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

The Holy Spirit now is not just a presence, but a powerful part of the trinity called "the breath of life". So far, He is a presence among the Godhead (God the Father, Christ, the Son and the Holy Spirit) who gives life and meaning to what God creates. Let us go over to the other slide to find out...



# The Holy Spirit: from presence to person

In what way is He then a person?

We will begin with St John 14:26.

Jesus puts it this way: But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Notice the pronoun 'he' [shall teach you]. In fact, He is such an integral part of the connection between God and humans that He is the medium through which God is revealing things to us. Remember 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 informs us that God reveals things unto us by his Spirit for He (The Spirit) searches all things, yea, even the deep things of God.

Clearly then, He is all-seeing, (omnipresent), all-knowing (omniscient) and all-powerful (omnipotent). Therefore, the Holy Spirit is God.



# Accessing the Holy Spirit

How do we 'access' and 'preserve' this treasure of God made available to us

Bible Teacher, Michael Mullings (2021) proposes a look at The Two-fold Nature of Baptism to find the answer.

"When you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in Him, you were marked with the seal of the promised Holy

Spirit;

this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory."

Ephesians 1:13-14

The Holy Spirit, then is promised to the believer and a marker for redemption...





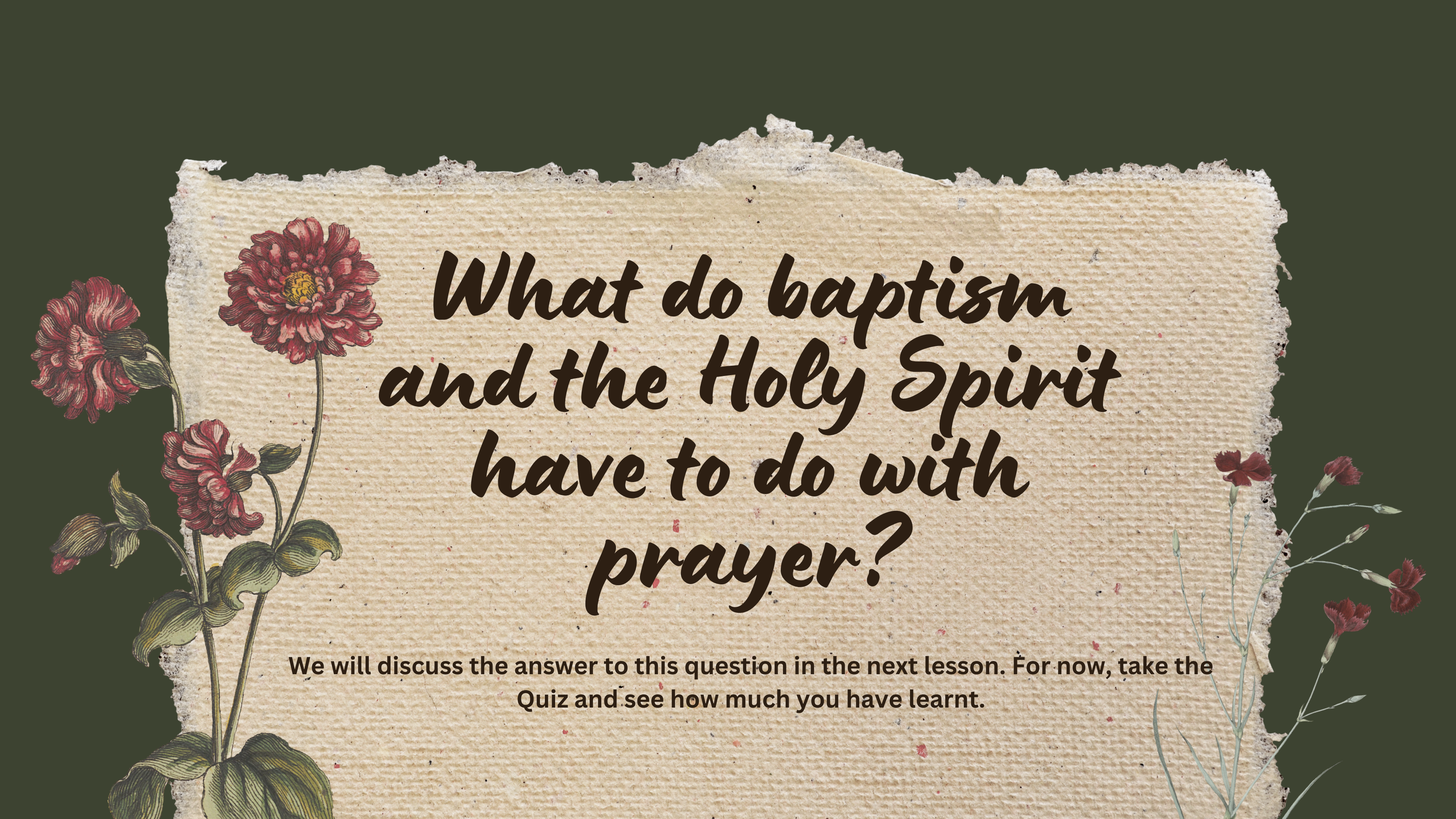
**Mullings argues water baptism is the 'cleaning of the house' that will host the gift in an unpolluted atmosphere.**

**John the Baptist explains it this way: "I baptize you with water for repentance" (Matthew 3:11). Water baptism then is not about an external washing but the inner cleansing – a ceremonial cleansing which symbolizes the purification. It is also a public declaration that when we have chosen to make Jesus the Lord of our lives, there is the need for our sins to be washed clean and I am indicating my decision to follow Christ through death (submerging the old Adamic man), burial (of my will) and resurrection (rising anew with Christ at the head). John the Baptist explains that this is only one half of baptism.**

**"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire". (Matthew 3:11)**

**Jesus then came to give unlimited access to the Holy Spirit through His sacrifice – a baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. image of one being baptized and as he steps out of the pool, he prays and gives thanks to God for the transition and the Holy Spirit, like a gentle fire from heaven, pierces his heart, transforming him.**





*What do baptism  
and the Holy Spirit  
have to do with  
prayer?*

We will discuss the answer to this question in the next lesson. For now, take the Quiz and see how much you have learnt.





# **Lesson 5 End of Lesson Activity**

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