

October 5, 2022

## The Role of the Holy Spirit in Apologetics and Evangelism

How much of a role does the Holy Spirit play in Apologetics & Evangelism? Are we totally dependent on the Holy Spirit in everything he does for us?

Who is the Holy Spirit and what is his role?

**John 14:26** – “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, *he will teach you all things* and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

We are dependent on the Holy Spirit to \_\_\_\_\_.

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**John 16:7-14** – “<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when he comes, *he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment*: <sup>9</sup> concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

<sup>12</sup> “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup> When the *Spirit of truth comes*, *he will guide you into all the truth*, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and *he will declare to you the things that are to come*. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

We are dependent on the Holy Spirit to be \_\_\_\_\_.

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**1 Corinthians 2:1-5** - And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup> and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, *but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power*, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

Paul was dependent on the Holy Spirit to \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Corinthians 2:10-16** - <sup>10</sup> these things *God has revealed to us through the Spirit*. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So *also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God*. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, *that we might understand the things freely given us by God*. <sup>13</sup> And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup> The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and *he is not able to understand them* because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup> The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. <sup>16</sup> "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

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### **Implications of our complete dependence on the Holy Spirit in our knowledge**

What is the relationship between the Spirit and the Christian epistemology?

Can unbelievers know anything about God? If so, how?

How does head knowledge become heart knowledge – true saving knowledge?

**Reflection From The Week:**

Read John 14 and reflect on the different roles of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit and write down how the roles of the Holy Spirit demonstrates one's complete dependence on the Spirit in apologetics and evangelism.

**Preparation For Next Week:**

Read: <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/bible/is-the-bible-reliable-the-evidence-we-know-so-far.html>

**Further Resources:**

Chatraw, Joshua D. and Mark D. Allen. *Apologetics At The Cross: An Introduction for Christian Witness*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2018.

Lewis, C. S. *Mere Christianity*. San Francisco, CA: HarperOne, 1980.

Newman, Randy. *Questioning Evangelism: Engaging People's Heart the Way Jesus Did*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2004.

Van Til, Cornelius. *Christian Apologetics*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1976.