

GREAT BEGINNINGS

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION ONLINE CLASS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH RICHMOND

www.fbctoday.org 804-233-7679

DR. DWIGHT C. JONES, SENIOR PASTOR DR. DERIK E. JONES, PASTOR

SESSION 3: MINISTRY SERVICE



Welcome to the fellowship of First Baptist Church of South Richmond!

Here you will be able to complete four of your online classes online. Two of your classes, Stewardship and Ministry, are required to be taken in class during the corresponding session. We encourage you to use the same schedule for onsite so that you might join the scheduled classes for the sessions mentioned above. Classes are held at Iron Bridge: 8:30AM Sundays, or 7:00PM Tuesdays or Hull Street, 9:30AM Sundays. Please refer to the online schedule for dates for onsite sessions. Please contact Rev. Pat Austin for assistance, christianed@fbctoday.org or at the church office.



CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 – Salvation and Discipleship

Week 2 – Evangelism and Fellowship

Week 3 – Service and Ministry

Week 4 - Worship and Quiet Time

Week 5 – Stewardship (on site)

Week 6 - Spiritual Gifts (on site)

On Site: Sundays, 8:30AM Ironbridge and 9:30AM Hull Street
Tuesdays, 7PM Iron Bridge

**NOTE: No Classes are held on the 5th Sunday or the Tuesday Following the 5th Sunday

LESSON GOAL

To better understand the Third Person in the Trinity, God's Holy Spirit, and how He operates in the lives of God's people for ministry service.

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:8

- Always begin your study with prayer
- Invite the Holy Spirit to lead you into all truth

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN **FROM THIS** STUDY?

Key Points:

- The work of the Holy Spirit
- How He operates in the life of the believer
- Spiritual Fruit
- Spiritual Growth



How Has The
Holy Spirit
Worked In your
Life?

Christ's final meeting with the disciples on the Mount of Olives provided a bridge between Jesus' earthly ministry and what He would do through His Spirit's indwelling of His disciples.

As the forty days of resurrection appearances closed, Jesus reinforced the Great Commission and promised the power to carry it out. Jesus described three things about power for the world mission task: its need, its nature, and its provision.

PURPOSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER

The purpose of the power is to equip disciples to be witnesses to the ends of the earth. The emphasis is on being Christ's witnesses.

PURPOSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER

Throughout the world, the church serve as a witness to the crucified and risen Lord and to the salvation God has provided through Him.

PURPOSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER

The power of the Spirit can send an ordinary group of people on a world mission and enable them to succeed at it, even in centers of earthly powers.

The nature of this power is seen in the word dunamin, which supplies the root of English words like dynamic, dynamism, dynamo, and dynamite. This power is a personal power which comes from the Holy Spirit in our lives. It is power to convict, convert, regenerate, comfort, and keep.



According to the Bible, the Holy Spirit is the presence and work of the living God here and now in our individual lives, in the church, and in the world. The Holy Spirit is one of the three divine persons of the Holy Trinity who make up the single substance of God.

That means, the Spirit acts in concert with and share an essential nature with God the Father and God the Son (Jesus). The Holy Spirit is usually referred to as the "Third Person" of the Triune God – with the Father being the First Person and the Son being the Second Person.

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The doctrine of the Trinity is not found in the Bible. But the Bible does speak of the one God who is present and at work in three ways.

"One God in three persons" means one personal God who lives and works in three different ways at the same time. The doctrine of the Trinity does not try to explain the mystery of the triune God; it tries to preserve a mystery that cannot be explained.

➤ The work of creation is not only the work of the Father; it is also the work of the Son: "All things came into being through Him" (John 1:3). "All things have been created through Him and for Him" (Colossians 1:16). And according to Genesis 1:2, creation is also the work of the Spirit of God moving across the waters of chaos.

The work of reconciliation and redemption is not only the work of the Son but the work of the Father and the Spirit too. "In Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Corinthians 5:19). It is through the Spirit that we "have access in one Spirit to the Father" (Ephesians 2:18).

➤ The Spirit's work of "sanctification" that renews us for fellowship with God and thankful service of God and neighbor is also attributed to the Father (1 Thessalonians 5:23) and to the Son (Ephesians 5:26).

We may associate different works especially with the Father, the Son, or the Spirit, but we cannot separate them. There are different aspects of the total work of one God. Where one is at work, the other two are at work also, and the purpose and goal of any one is the same as the purpose and goal of the other two.

There is a tendency to think of the Spirit as an impersonal divine power or energy that somehow gets into people. But the reality is, the Holy Spirit is a person.

The Holy Spirit Teaches – "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." John 14:26. The Holy Spirit teaches us about Jesus and helps us recall His teachings.

The Holy Spirit Testifies – "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me." John 15:26.

The Holy Spirit Guides – "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; he will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come." John 16:13

The Spirit is the only adequate interpreter of scripture. Each person can rely on the Holy Spirit to guide them into truth. The Holy Spirit will finish God's revelation by declaring and interpreting all truth to maturing disciples able to understand.

The Holy Spirit Leads—"because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God." Romans 8:14

God's people are characterized by the leadership of His Spirit. We are confident being God's children because His spirit lives in us, leads us to pray to God and assures us we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit Gives us Spiritual Gifts - Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 and 22-28; Ephesians 4:11-13 — The Holy Spirit also gives us gifts to use for kingdom building and edification of the saints. What are they? — Gifts of the Spirit are special abilities provided by the Holy Spirit to Christians for the purpose of building up the body of Christ.

The list of spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 includes wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues. Similar lists appear in Ephesians 4:7-13 and Romans 12:3-8.

The gifts of the Spirit are simply Gods enabling believers to do what He has called us to do. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are part of the "everything we need" to fulfill His purposes for our lives. That is not how it works. God calls us to obediently serve Him. He will equip us with whatever gifts of the Spirit we need to accomplish the task or tasks He has called us to.

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL GROWTH?

Spiritual growth is the process of becoming more and more like Jesus Christ. When we place our faith in Jesus, the Holy Spirit begins the process of making us more like Jesus, conforming us to His image. Spiritual growth is perhaps best described in 2 Peter 1:3-8.

For spiritual growth to occur, you first need to make sure you possess a true spiritual life through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 5:11-12). When you believe in Christ, the Holy Spirit lives inside you (John 14:16-17) and you are a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Your old nature, which is dominated by sin, is replaced with a new nature that is under the influence of God's Spirit (Romans chapters 6-7). Spiritual growth can only occur in a person who knows the Lord Jesus Christ as his or her Savior.

An important key to spiritual growth is walking in the Spirit – Galatians 5:16-18, 24-26 explains this. Walking in the Spirit is allowing Him to fill you, control you, and guide you. This is brought about by consciously choosing by faith to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide you in thought, word, and deed.

Failure to rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance will result in a believer not living up to the calling and standing that salvation provides. Your old nature, which is dominated by sin, is replaced with a new nature that is under the influence of God's Spirit (Romans chapters 6-7). Spiritual growth can only occur in a person who knows the Lord Jesus Christ as his or her Savior.

Learning how to grow spiritually is a life-long journey which occurs as you read and apply God's Word to your life (2 Timothy 3:16-17). You must be taught, rebuked, corrected, and trained by God's Word, to grow. Then you will be thoroughly equipped for every good work. This is the essence of spiritual growth. First Baptist Church is striving to have a spiritually strong church. God's will for every believer is spiritual maturity. 2 Peter 1:3-8





ARE YOU BEARING FRUIT?

Our lives bear fruit when we grow in relationship to God. "Fruit of the Spirit" is a biblical term that sums up the nine visible attributes of a true Christian life.

and all your strength.

And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, Deuteronomy 6:5 (NLT)



May the Lord show favor toward you, and give you peace. Numbers 6:26 (NLV)

Great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:23b (NASB)

My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in Psalm 28:7 (NIV)



Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23:6 (KJV)

Pursue a godly life, along with faith, love,

perseverance, and gentleness. 1 Timothy 6:11b (NLT)

Meanwhile, the saints stand passionately patient, keeping God's commands, staying faithful to Jesus. Revelation 14:12 (The Message)

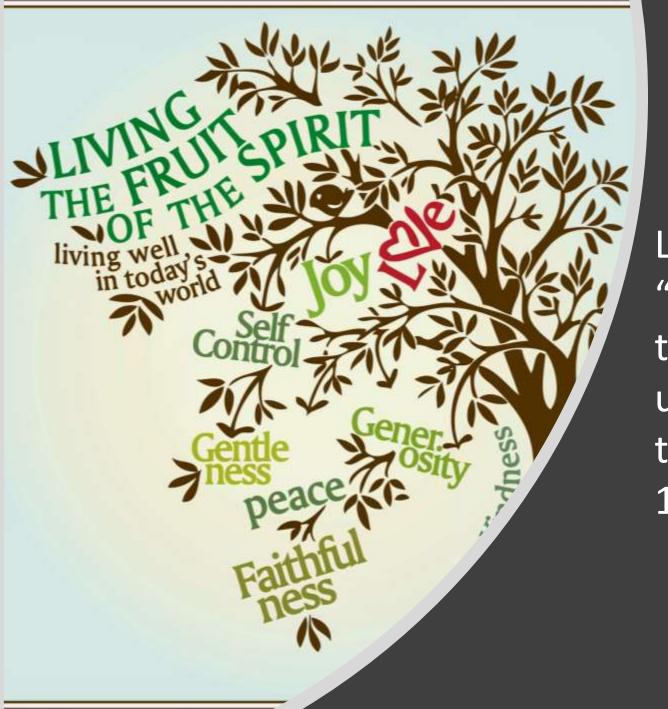
A person without self-control is like a house with its doors and windows knocked out. Proverbs 25:28 (The Message)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galations 5:22-23a (NIV)

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LIFE APPLICATION



Love – The word rendered love is "agape" in the Greek, which in the Christian context refers to unconditional love. Paul describes the attributes of this love in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a.



Joy – Joy is more than happiness, which is temporal (temporary) and conditional. Happiness is an emotion dependent on personal feelings. Joy is the unconditional state of mind that accompanies fellowship with God. It is characterized by great wellbeing. Nehemiah 8:10b says; "do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."



Peace – Peace is the result of resting in a relationship with God. Peace is tranquility, a state of rest that comes from seeking our God, or, the opposite of chaos. The word "peace" comes from the Greek equivalent for the Hebrew word shalom, which expresses the idea of wholeness, completeness, or tranquility in the soul that is unaffected by the outward circumstances or pressures. See Romans 5:1.



Patience (longsuffering) – Patience, which in some translations is "longsuffering" or "endurance. Hebrews 10:36 says "For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise."



Kindness – Kindness does not necessarily mean nice. One can be kind and not be nice. Nice is defined as being agreeable. Kindness is acting for the good of people regardless of what they do. See 2 Corinthians 6:6-7.



Goodness – Goodness is the state or quality of being good; moral excellence; virtue. "Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness, and the work of faith with power" See 2 Thessalonians 1:11.

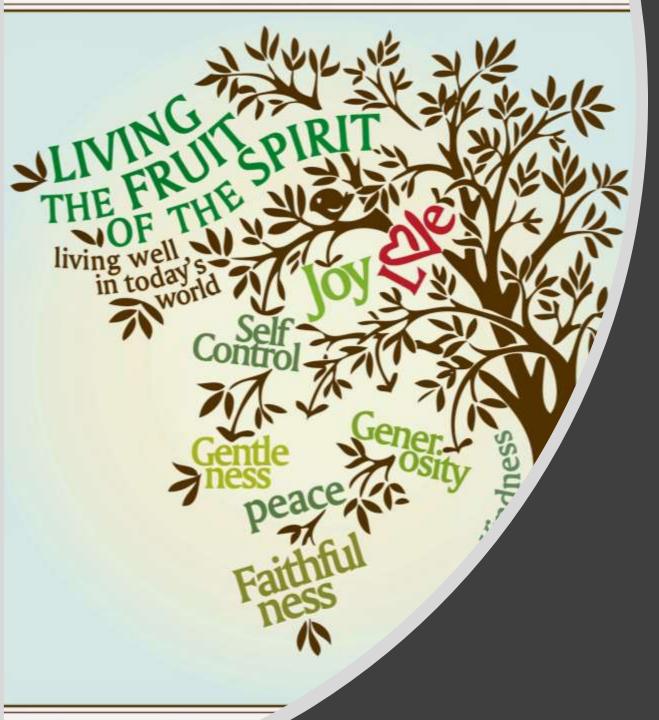


Faithfulness – Faith is the attitude whereby a man (or woman) abandons all reliance in his own efforts to obtain salvation. It is the attitude of complete trust in Christ, of reliance on Him alone for all that salvation means See Isaiah 25:1.



Gentleness (Meekness) – Humbly patient, gentle, and kind. Read Ephesians 4:2

Self-Control (Temperance) – Temperance means habitual moderation in any indulgence or appetite; self-restraint.



CENTERING MOMENT:

- Spiritual growth is intentional
- Spiritual growth is not a mythical process
- Spiritual growth is a process
- Spiritual growth is not simply what you know, but what you are willing to demonstrate
- Spiritual maturity is a relational matter; how you deal with God and others

REFLECTION

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

CONGRATULATIONS!

You have completed your online Ministry Service Orientation Class! Take the survey and email your answers to Rev. Pat Austin, Director of Christian Education, or you may leave a printed copy at the Hull Street Office Receptionist Desk. Following review, you will receive a certificate of completion. Remember to include your contact information on your survey.

If you need further discussion of this study, or have questions, please contact Rev. Austin.

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Updated 11/16/19

