

THE MINISTRIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The primary ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify Jesus Christ and to reveal Christ to the human heart.

He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (John 16:14)

The Holy Spirit did not come to draw attention to Himself, but to lead people to Christ, to convict them of sin, to bring about transformation, and to shape the character of Jesus in the disciple.

1. The Ministry of Salvation—the work of the Holy Spirit leading people to Christ

The Ministry of Persuasion

When he comes, he will convict the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. (John 16:8)

The Holy Spirit convicts people of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

The Greek word *elegcho* describes someone being confronted until they acknowledge their condition.

True repentance arises when the Holy Spirit enlightens the conscience.

Biblical Example: David—after being confronted by the prophet Nathan, acknowledged his sin and repented deeply (Psalm 51).

1.1 — The Ministry of Regeneration (New Birth) of the Holy Spirit

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” (John 3:5)

The Holy Spirit brings about spiritual rebirth.

He does not improve the old nature; He creates a new life.

Biblical Example: Nicodemus — was taught by Jesus about the necessity of being born again.

1.2 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

In whom you also, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13)

The Holy Spirit seals the disciple as God’s possession.



The seal symbolizes belonging, authenticity, and spiritual security.

Biblical Example: Abraham—he received the sign of the covenant and became an example of belonging to the Lord.

2. The Department of Education of Espírito Santo

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you. (John 14:26)

The Holy Spirit is our Teacher.

The word didasko refers to someone who trains disciples through teaching.

The Holy Spirit does not merely inform; He transforms.

Biblical Example: Apollos — was instructed more deeply in the way of the Lord.

What we see today is a “Frankenstein” style of discipleship—a little bit of everything that doesn’t stick—and “E.T.” style discipleship (big head, small body).

2.1 — The Ministry of Remembrance of the Holy Spirit

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will remind you of everything I have told you. (John 14:26)

The Holy Spirit brings Christ’s words to mind.

It awakens in us what was planted by the Word.

Biblical Example: Peter—remembered Jesus’ words after denying the Master.

2.2 — The Ministry of the Sanctification of the Holy Spirit

But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11)

The Holy Spirit works to shape the character of Christ within us.

Holiness is daily cooperation with the Holy Spirit.

Biblical Example: Joseph — remained holy even in the face of temptation.

2.3 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit’s Spiritual Fruit



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

The Holy Spirit brings about spiritual maturity.

Gifts reveal service; fruits reveal transformation.

Biblical Example: Barnabas—he demonstrated kindness, encouragement, and spiritual maturity.

2.4 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit’s Life-Giving Power

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies. (Romans 8:11)

The Holy Spirit strengthens, renews, and imparts spiritual life.

It revives what had grown weak within us.

Biblical Example: Ezekiel—saw the valley of dry bones come to life through the Spirit of God.

3. The Ministry of Communion and the Presence of the Holy Spirit

The work of the Holy Spirit alongside the disciple.

3.1 — The Ministry of the Consolation of the Holy Spirit

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, so that he may be with you forever. (John 14:16)

The Holy Spirit is the Comforter (Parakletos).

He strengthens, encourages, and stands by the disciple.

Biblical Example: Stephen—was empowered by the Spirit until the very end.

Another example: in the Roman army, when soldiers went to war, there was a soldier named Parakletos who stood beside each one, encouraging them: “You’ve lost a battle, but you haven’t lost the war.”

3.2 — The Ministry of Housing of Espírito Santo

Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16)



The Holy Spirit dwells in the disciple as the temple of God.

He doesn't just want to visit; he wants to stay.

Biblical Example: Samuel — grew up in the Lord's constant presence.

Someone has rightly observed that the Holy Spirit wants to dwell in a “home,” not in a hotel or hospital (places of temporary stay).

3.3 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:13)

The Holy Spirit brings about fellowship with God and unity in the Body of Christ.

Where the Spirit reigns, there is true unity.

Biblical Example: The early church—they devoted themselves to prayer and fellowship.

3.4 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit's Intercession

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (Romans 8:26)

The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness when we pray.

When we are at a loss for words, He intercedes for us.

Biblical Example: Hannah—prayed earnestly before God.

3.5 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit's Assistance

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (Romans 8:26)

3.6 — The Ministry of Pouring Out God's Love Through the Holy Spirit

Now, hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. (Romans 5:5)

The Holy Spirit pours God's love into our hearts.

Spiritual love is born of the work of the Holy Spirit.



Biblical Example: John — became known as the disciple of love.

4. The Ministry of Guidance and Revelation

The work of the Holy Spirit guiding the disciple.

4.1 — The Prophetic Ministry of the Holy Spirit

But when he, 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. (John 16:13)

The Holy Spirit foretells future events and guides our decisions.

Those who learn to listen to the Spirit walk with discernment.

Biblical Example: Agabus — prophesied future events by the Spirit.

4.2 — The Ministry of Guidance of the Holy Spirit

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. (Romans 8:14)

The Holy Spirit guides God's children.

The Spirit does not merely comfort; He guides us on our path.

Biblical Example: Philip—was led by the Spirit to meet the Ethiopian eunuch.

4.3 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit's Revelation

For God has revealed it to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. (1 Corinthians 2:10)

The Holy Spirit reveals the depths of God.

Without the Holy Spirit, the Bible is just a book; with Him, it becomes the living Word.

Biblical Example: Daniel — received divine revelations and interpretations.

4.4 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit's Witness

But when the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me. (John 15:26)



The Holy Spirit bears witness to Jesus.

The more the Spirit works, the more Christ is revealed.

Biblical Example: John the Baptist — clearly testified to who Christ was.

4.5 — The Ministry of Glorifying Christ Through the Holy Spirit

He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (John 16:14)

Jesus will always be at the heart of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The true work of the Spirit always exalts Christ.

Biblical Example: Paul—his entire life and message pointed to Christ.

5. The Ministry of Spiritual Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

The work of the Holy Spirit through the disciple.

5.1 — The Ministry of Training of the Holy Spirit

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses. (Acts 1:8)

The Holy Spirit grants spiritual power.

God does not call anyone without equipping them.

Biblical Example: Peter—was transformed into a bold preacher after Pentecost.

5.2 — The Ministry of the Distribution of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

But it is the one and the same Spirit who works all these things, distributing them to each person individually as he wills. (1 Corinthians 12:11)

The Holy Spirit distributes gifts as he wills.

Gifts are tools for building up the Body.

Biblical Example: Bezalel — was given special skills by God.

5.3 — The Ministry of the Anointing of the Holy Spirit



Just as God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. (Acts 10:38)

The anointing empowers the disciple to fulfill his or her purpose.

The anointing is not a spectacle; it is divine empowerment.

Biblical Example: David — was anointed and empowered by the Spirit of the Lord.

5.4 — The Ministry of Spiritual Boldness Given by the Holy Spirit

When they had prayed, the place where they were gathered together shook; they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness. (Acts 4:31)

The Holy Spirit produces spiritual courage.

Fear paralyzes (fear is a spirit); the Holy Spirit empowers.

Biblical Example: Stephen—preached boldly before his opponents.

5.5 — The Ministry of Sending for the Work of the Holy Spirit

And as they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” (Acts 13:2)

The Holy Spirit calls, sets apart, and sends people to do the work.

God's work begins first in the heart of the Holy Spirit.

Biblical Example: Barnabas and Paul — they were sent by the Holy Spirit.

6. The Ministry of Deliverance and the Rule of the Holy Spirit

The work of the Holy Spirit against darkness.

6.1 — The Ministry of Liberation

Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (2 Corinthians 3:17)

The Holy Spirit breaks spiritual chains and inner strongholds.

Where the Spirit reigns, there is true freedom.

Biblical Example: Mary Magdalene — was freed from spiritual oppression.



6.2 — The Ministry of Evil Restriction

In fact, the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; it is only waiting for the one who is now holding it back to be removed. (2 Thessalonians 2:7)

The Holy Spirit restrains the full manifestation of wickedness.

God allows her to go as far as a certain point.

The world has not yet plunged completely into chaos because the Holy Spirit continues to work.

Biblical Example: Noah — lived as an instrument of preservation in the midst of a corrupt generation.

6.3 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit's Exhortation

When God uses someone to call the church to account, pay attention to how you respond to them. If they are disciplined, there will be no problem; never insult them, but confront them.

To Conclude

Without the Holy Spirit, there is religion.

With the Holy Spirit, there is transformation.

Pr. César Souza

