



01 MAY 2022 | PS ERNIE SONG | GOD IS SPIRIT | JOHN 4:23-24

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit and trust in His leading.
2. Worship God in spirit (oneness) and in truth (fresh revelation).

SERMON SUMMARY

God is Spirit and we are spirit. Our relationship with God (towards oneness with His will and ways) can only be Spirit to spirit. The Holy Spirit is the bridge between us and God, revealing the Father's ways and will for our lives, so that we are one with God's will and God's ways. The filling of the Holy Spirit is a necessary step towards oneness with God.

SERMON RECAP

Many believers today approach their relationship with God cognitively. But Scripture teaches us that we are to relate with God spirit to spirit and through the Holy Spirit.

1. God is Spirit and He Exists in a Different Realm

- God exists in a spiritual realm. In this realm are spiritual forces and principalities ([Psalm 82](#), [Ephesians 6:12](#), [Job 1:6-7](#)). These spiritual beings can manifest in the physical realm, and they have authority on earth:
 - Biblical evidence – demon possession, demons causing sicknesses, angels who can blind eyes and heal, etc.
- The spiritual realm is where the Spiritual Battle occurs.
 - *“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”* – **Ephesians 6:12 (ESV)**
- Thus, we cannot limit our experience of God and our understanding of His ways to just the physical realm (our rational thinking). Sometimes, things will not make sense to us because it is in a different realm.

2. Implication – We Must Worship God in Spirit and in Truth

- In Spirit
 - In heaven, there is oneness with God's will and ways among all the heavenly beings (angels). These heavenly beings embody God's ways and are ready to execute God's will.
 - Our goal as disciples is to be one with God's will and ways ([John 5:19](#), [Romans 12:1-2](#))

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- We are spiritual beings and must relate with God spirit to spirit with the help of the Holy Spirit.
 - The Holy Spirit helps us to be ONE with God in character, ways, values, purpose, plans ([John 14:26](#)).
 - In Truth
 - Worship in heaven is based on who God is (what they see when they gaze upon God), and therefore they respond accordingly ([Isaiah 6:1-5](#)).
 - To worship in TRUTH, we need a revelation of who God is (by gazing at Him in the spiritual realm) and who we are.

In order for believers to worship (being a living sacrifice) in Spirit (oneness with the Father) and in Truth (a fresh revelation of Him every day), we need the Holy Spirit.

3. Application – We Need a Fresh Filling of God’s Spirit

- What is the starting place? Being filled/ baptised with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 5:18-19](#)).
- Why?
 - Jesus exemplified His dependence on the Holy Spirit ([Luke 4:18-19](#)).
 - Jesus instructed His disciples to receive the Holy Spirit ([Acts 1:4-5](#)).
 - The purpose is for the extension of God’s kingdom ([Acts 1:8](#)).
- The disciples went through multiple fillings:
 - Jesus breathed on them the Holy Spirit after His resurrection ([John 20:22](#))
 - The Holy Spirit fell on them in power during Pentecost ([Acts 2:1-4](#))
 - They were filled with the Holy Spirit again while praying for boldness to proclaim the good news ([Acts 4:29-31](#))

The infilling and baptism of the Holy Spirit is meant for all believers – for the purposes of being witnesses in the world, and to be ONE with God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How integral is the Holy Spirit’s role in a believer’s life according to Scripture? In what ways is He supposed to be our Helper? [15 mins]
2. What are some of your hesitations in being filled with the Holy Spirit? [10 mins]
3. What areas of your life would you like to see God becoming more real through the Holy Spirit? [15 mins]



WORKS

Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. Sermon Application

- For us to be hungry for God constantly and to allow Him to fill us with His Spirit.
- For us to allow the Holy Spirit to work in us and to transform us.

2. COVID-19 in Singapore

- Pray for God's continued protection from the virus.
- Pray for lives and businesses that have been impacted by the pandemic.

3. Russia-Ukraine War

- Pray for a swift end to this way and for the principalities that are influencing this situation to be broken.
- Protection for the people of Ukraine especially those who are believers.

4. Opportunities for Outreach

- Ask the Lord to grant you opportunities to reach out to a non-believing loved one, friend, or colleague this week as we seek to mature in Christlikeness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Digital Bulletin: rlc.sg/bulletin

1. **Seminar: Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Fridays, 13, 20, 27 May, 8-10pm, Worship Centre.** What does it mean to be baptised in the Holy Spirit, and why was this experience so prominently featured in the Book of Acts? Is praying in tongues the initial evidence for Spirit-baptism? Is there another indicator that one has experienced the infilling of the Spirit? How should we make sense of all these considering the positions of other church traditions? Does it matter whether I pray in tongues? Join us for a special three-part seminar as we explore the understanding and significance of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit for our lives with the Academic Dean of Acts College, David Lim Han Hui.
2. **Water Baptism Class. 21 May, 9-3.30pm.** Register for this class at rlc.sg/wbclass by Sun, 15 May. For enquiries, please contact Karen Koh at karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg. Next Water Baptism service will be on 26 June.
3. **SuperLife Camp 2022. 9-11 June (Thu-Sat). \$40 per child.** For children in Primary 1-6. For more details or registration, visit this link: rlc.sg/slcamp2022. There will be a special family session on Sat, 11 June (4-8pm), \$10 per parent. Registration closes on 8 May.
4. **F&B Related Ministries Recruitment.** We're looking for RiverLifers who love connecting with new people and enjoy cooking and serving. Team members will serve once a month. For more details Karen Koh (Welcome Lounge) at karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg and Jonathan Cho (The Café and Volunteers Corner) at jonathancho@riverlife.org.sg.

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5. **Technical & Production (TAP) Ministry Recruitment.** The TAP ministry comprises five teams – audio, graphics, lighting, sound and video – and they all work as one in partnership with the Holy Spirit to support an atmosphere that allows the congregation to encounter God. We are now opening up recruitment for this ministry. If you desire to take the next step in your walk with God through starting to serve, we invite you to sign up to explore serving in one of the five TAP teams. You may sign up online at rlc.sg/serve or refer to our [digital bulletin](#) for more details.
 6. **Alpha.** We know that some may have many questions about life, God, Jesus and Christianity. Or, maybe they are a new Christian who has just accepted Jesus into their life and desire to embark on this journey with Jesus. We would like to extend a special invitation for these individuals to participate in Alpha at RiverLife. It is a series of 12 sessions (*8 online & 3 in-person*) where participants can ask anything about life, faith and God in a friendly environment. The first session starts 5 May. Full schedule and registration details can be found here: rlc.sg/alpha.
 7. **Missions from Home.** In order to find out more information concerning our mission initiatives in the nations and how you can participate, visit our new mission website. (rlc.sg/mfh)
 8. **RiverLife Community Services (RCS).** In 2021, RCS focused on providing relief to families who were badly affected by the pandemic. We believe that in this season, God is calling RCS to build loving families and strong communities. Listed below are opportunities where you can serve or give to RCS:
 - You can serve as a volunteer in one of our programmes to befriend and build relationships with children, youth, mothers and lower-income families. Find out more here: rlc.sg/rcs2022.
 - You can support the work of RCS by participating in our annual Family Movie Day. For instructions on how you can watch a movie this June holidays and stand for families visit this link rlc.sg/rcsmovie.
 - You can sow by contributing financially too. Your giving will go into initiatives such as grocery distributions and various programmes that will help our beneficiaries build resilience and break free from the poverty cycle. Find out more by writing to RCS at office@rcs.org.sg.
 - RCS is also looking to partner with organizations (donations of essential items – toiletries, wearables, etc). To find out more, write to us at volunteer@rcs.org.sg.
 9. **RiverLife Podcast.** The RiverLife Podcast allows you to listen to RiverLife content anytime, anywhere! The link to go to is rlc.sg/podcast or simply search **'The RiverLife Podcast'** on Spotify.
 10. **Spiritual Growth Resources.** We have put together a curated list of recommended resources for the RiverLife family. These resources (books, articles, podcasts and videos) are recommendations for the various spiritual growth stages as you seek to grow deeper in the River of God this year. You can

access them at rlc.sg/resource. This list will be continually populated throughout the year.

11. **Cradle Roll.** Our Cradle Roll is open from 9am to 10.30am every Sunday for children 24 months and below. **NO booking of tickets is required.**
12. **Prayer Ministry.** If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. unforgiveness, demonic oppression, etc), you can sign up for RLC's RTF ministry: <https://bit.ly/rlcrtf>
13. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting: <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
14. **Testimony.** If you have a testimony to share, you can write to us at stories@riverlife.org.sg to share with us your testimony as an encouragement to others.

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