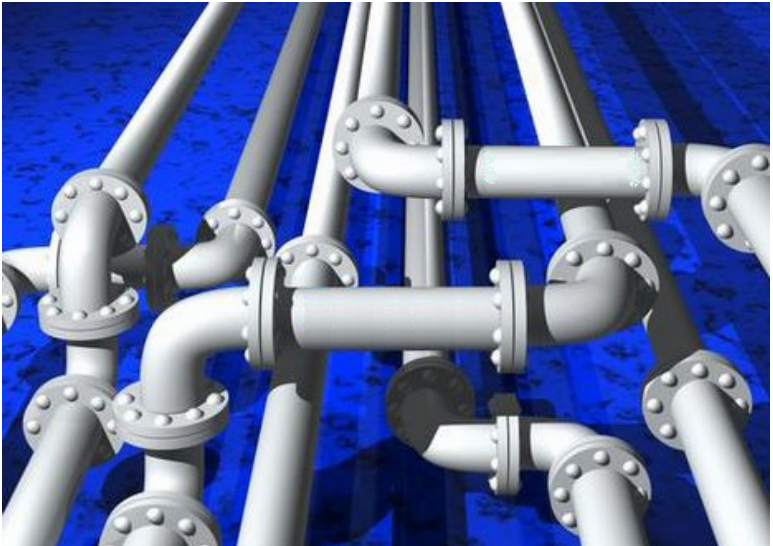


# THE PASSION PIPELINE



## October 21<sup>st</sup> **The Water in the Pipe: The Personal, Powerful Presence of the Holy Spirit**

### INTRODUCTION

In the spring of 2006 the family of Whitney Cerak went through the horrible ordeal of burying their daughter. She was one of five vibrant young adults whose lives had been cut short in a terrible car accident near Marion, IN.

Like the parents of tragically killed young person, the Cerak's were struggling to cope with the lose of their daughter. No more birthdays, no more holiday gatherings, no dreams of a big wedding, no hope for grandchildren. They we attempting to deal with their grief. They had lost their daughter. Nothing could change that.

Then on May 31<sup>st</sup> it was revealed that Whitney Cerak had being misidentified at the scene of the accident

and another young woman had actually died in the car wreck.

The Cerak's grief was replaced with Joy.

There daughter had always been alive, so was their grief real. Yes. Because what we believe about a person determines how we relate to them.

T.S. This is so true for our study on the Passion Pipeline.



## **WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT DETERMINES HOW WE RELATE TO HIM.**

If the passion pipeline is all about how we connect to the Living water. Then what we believe about the Living Water, the Spirit is vitally important.

This morning I want us to gain a better understanding about the Holy Spirit: The personal, powerful presence of the Holy Spirit.

## **Who He Is**

The third person of the trinity, who exercises the power of the Father and the Son in creation and redemption.

### ***The Third Person of the Trinity***

- Paul closes a letter with a three-part prayer: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Cor. 13:14).

***2 Cor 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.***

- Peter begins a letter with this three-part formula: "who have been chosen according to the

foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood" (1 Peter 1:2).

*1 Peter 1:2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood:*

- Three distinct personalities as seen in Luke 3:21-22.

*When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."*

## **The Holy Spirit as God**

The Spirit also has the infinite attributes of God: unlimited in time, space, power and knowledge.

### **Eternality: Forever**

The Holy Spirit, the Counselor, will be with us "forever" (John 14:16).

*John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you*

The Spirit is "eternal" (Heb. 9:14).

*Heb 9:14 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!*

## **Omnipresence: Everywhere**

David, praising God's greatness, asked, "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there" (Ps. 139:7-8).

## **Omnipotence: All Powerful**

The works that God does, such as creation, are also ascribed to the Holy Spirit (Job 33:4; Ps. 104:30).

*Ps 104:30 When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.*

Miracles of Jesus Christ were done "by the Spirit" (Matt. 12:28).

## **Omniscience: All Knowing**

"The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God," Paul said (1 Cor. 2:10). The Spirit of God "knows the thoughts of God" (v. 11). The Spirit therefore knows all things, and is able to teach all things (John 14:26).

## ***The Holy Spirit as a Person***

The Holy Spirit is not a symbol of anything. Symbols don't, mere powers or forces don't :

- communicate ('speaks')

*Acts 13:2*

*2 While 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."*

- intercede (steps in on behalf of someone)

*Rom 8:26-27*

*26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.*

- testify

*John 15:26*

*26 "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.*

- guide

*John 16:13-14*

*13 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.*

- command

*Acts 16:6-7*

*6 Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. 7 When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.*

- appoint

*Acts 20:28-29*

*28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.*

- lead

*Rom 8:14-15*

*14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.*

- grieve

*Eph 4:30-31*

*30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

## What he Does

1982 – Mrs. Grace Rich – English Prof at TFC with permanent smile lines creased in her face—used a word that in my limited understanding and poor vocabulary at the time had never heard before.

She began to lecture about the hero in a book we were discussing and she was describing him by his Sobriquets.

We were discussing Natty Bumppo, you all know him right. Maybe these will help. Pathfinder, Deerslayer, Hawkeye. James Fenimore Coopers hero in his early pioneer novels.

Sobriquet -- A **sobriquet** is a nickname which is familiar enough such that it can be used in place of a real name without the need of explanation. This salient characteristic, it is of sufficient familiarity that the sobriquet becomes more familiar than the original name for which it was formed as an alternative.

Shaq – Shaquill O’Neal

Dr. J – Julius Ervin

Honest Abe -- Abraham Lincoln

"Silent Cal" -- Calvin Coolidge.

Rose of Sharon, Lily of the Valley, The Bright and Morning Star – Jesus

T. S. Let's look at what should be our familiar sobriquets of the Holy Spirit.

### **Grace—Leader**

It is by the Holy Spirit that one confesses that Jesus is Lord (1 Cor 12:3).

### **Work-Sealer**

Once we are saved and belong to God, the Spirit takes up residence in our hearts forever, sealing us with the confirming, certifying, and assuring pledge of our eternal state as His children.

- He is the person who bears witness to us that we are children of God (8:16-17).
- The Holy Spirit acts with God and Christ as the pledge or guarantee by which believers are sealed for the day of salvation (2 Cor 1:21-22), and by which they walk and live (Rom 8:3-6) and abound in hope with power (Rom 15:13).

### **Heart-Convictor**

First, He does a work in the hearts of all people everywhere.

Jesus told the disciples that He would send the Spirit into the world to “convict the world concerning sin, and concerning righteousness, and concerning judgment” (John 16:7-11).

Everyone has a “God consciousness,” because the Spirit applies the truths of God to men’s own minds as to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners.

Responding to that conviction brings men to salvation.

- The Holy Spirit is the way to Jesus Christ the Son (Rom 8:11) and to the Father (Rom 8:14-15).

Rom 8:11-15

11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

. . . 14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

### **Helper-Promised**

Jesus said He would send the Spirit to us to be our Helper, Comforter, and Guide. "And I will pray the Father and He will give you another Helper that He may abide with you forever" (John 14:16).

- The Greek word translated here "Helper" means one who is called alongside and has the idea of someone who encourages and exhorts. "Abiding" has to do with His permanent residence in the hearts of believers (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 12:13).
- He "makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Rom 8:26-27).

### **Truth-revealer**

Among those functions is that of revealer of truth.

- The Spirit's presence within us enables us to understand and interpret the Word. Jesus told His disciples "when He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13).
- The Holy Spirit also reveals to Christians the deep things of God (1 Cor 2:10-12) and the mystery of Christ (Eph 3:3-5).

He reveals to our minds the whole counsel of God as it relates to worship, doctrine, and Christian living. He is the ultimate guide, going before, leading the way, removing obstructions, opening the understanding, and making all things plain and clear. He leads in the way we should go in all spiritual things. Without such a guide, we would be apt to fall into error.

- A crucial part of the Truth He reveals is that Jesus is who He said He is (John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 12:3).
- He gives glory to Christ in all things (John 16:14).

### **Gift-giver**

Another of His roles is that of gift-giver. First Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Eph 4, 1 Peter 4, Is 11 describe the spiritual gifts given to believers in order that we may function as the body of Christ on earth. All these gifts, both great and small, are given by the Spirit so that we may be His ambassadors to the world, showing forth His grace and glorifying Him.

### **Fruit-Producer**

The Spirit also functions as fruit-producer in our lives. When He indwells us, He begins the work of harvesting His fruit in our lives - love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, meekness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

These are not works of our flesh, which is incapable of producing such fruit, but they are products of the Spirit's presence in our lives.

## **SUMMARY**

The knowledge of who Holy Spirit of God is and what He is like, changes the way we relate to him.

He is God, third Person of the Trinity and is zealously at work in my life and the world today.

## **CHALLENGE**

Have you ignored the Holy Spirit in your life? Have you caused Him hurt or grief because of neglect or contempt? Do you need to confess a lack of relationship to the Holy Spirit?