

















crucified Jesus, but God accepted Jesus's obedient death as a sacrifice to redeem humanity from sin and evil. God vindicated Jesus by raising him from the dead and exalting him to the Father's right hand, where Jesus lives and reigns today.

Through Jesus, God poured out the Holy Spirit on the church, the community of disciples. Anointed and empowered by the Spirit, the church participates in the ongoing ministry of Jesus in the world. Further, the church longs for the return of Christ, when God will raise the dead and judge evil, and God's people will enjoy eternal fellowship with him in a redeemed creation. It is this story, and this future hope, that has inspired Christian discipleship from the beginning of the church on Pentecost to the present day.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST ARE COMMITTED TO HEARING AND FOLLOWING GOD'S VOICE THROUGH SCRIPTURE, THE SPIRIT-BREATHED WORD OF GOD.

Through the reading and proclamation of Scripture and by the working of God's Spirit, humans encounter God, are transformed into God's image, and discern and participate in God's purposes in creation. Further, Christians are in a better position to encounter God through Scripture when they engage in practices like worship and spiritual disciplines, participation in God's mission, and communal discernment in a Spirit-filled church.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST ARE COMMITTED TO THE UNITY, HOLINESS, UNIVERSALITY, AND APOSTOLICITY OF THE CHURCH, THE COMMUNITY OF FELLOW-DISCIPLES.

The church includes all Christians who have confessed faith in Christ, been baptized, and pursue a life of discipleship. Further, the church community is essential for growth in discipleship through worship, spiritual formation, and participation in God's mission.

The church is one. Churches of Christ affirm the autonomy of the local congregation under Spirit-led leaders. Participation in religious organizations beyond the local church is encouraged but voluntary. The church maintains and experiences unity not through denominational structures but through its union with Christ, through a shared faith, and through shared practices like baptism and the Lord's Supper. Unity is the Spirit's gift, and the Spirit desires for all Christians to grow in a spirit of unity and love.



The Ocean State Church of Christ is a spirit-filled and spirit-led group of believers of all cultures located around Rhode Island.



GRIFFIN CHURCH OF CHRIST A Spirit Filled Church

Welcome About Us Location Contact Us Leadership Calendar-Classes-Announcements Bible Study Resources



Isaiah 40:31

Thank You

We are so glad that you are interested in the *Griffin Church of Christ*. We encourage you to browse through our website and get to know us better. We especially encourage you to check out the "About Us" section. It will give you some information and insights into our core beliefs and what to expect when you visit.





EMMANUEL

The phrase "Spirit-filled" is tossed around a lot today in evangelicalism. Most often, this label is used to describe a Christian or a church that emphasizes spiritual gifts, experiences authentic and emotional worship 'encounters,' and seeks to avoid "putting God in a box" when it comes to the expression of faith.



A Spirit-filled and Spirit-led church will manifest the fruit of the Spirit, including joy, and the gifts of the Spirit, including prophecy, words from God (whether ecstatic and spontaneous or folded in the messages preached from the pulpit).

Such a church will be open to the "sovereign unpredictability of the Spirit" even as it celebrates tradition. This requires risk on the part leadership; leadership will leave space for the Spirit to move and work in ways that transcend traditional forms.

Such a church will believe in and pray for supernatural interventions of God in delivering people from bondages to sin and sickness; it will include testimonies of such deliverances that give all the credit and glory to God alone. (No great spotlight will be shining down on the pastor or evangelist or sprayer warrior," etc.)

Such a church will lay all decisions before God for guidance and direction and move only through consensus of the spiritually mature people of God within the church. It will not be led by a dictatorial individual or small group that serves his, her or their interests.

Misused Bible Concepts: Being "Spirit-Filled"

How was the term used in the Old Testament?



Exodus 28:3 (NKJV)

"So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest."

Exodus 31:2-6 (NKJV)

"See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. "And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, "to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, "in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship. "And I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all who are gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you:"

Exodus 35:30,31 (NKJV)

"And Moses said to the children of Israel, "See, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; "and He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and understanding, in knowledge and all manner of workmanship,"

Exodus 35:34,35 (NKJV)

""And He has put in his heart the ability to teach, in him and Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. "He has filled them with skill to do all manner of work of the engraver and the designer and the tapestry maker, in blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine linen, and of the weaver-those who do every work and those who design artistic works."

Misused Bible Concepts: Being "Spirit-Filled"

- How was the term used in the Old Testament?
- How was the term used in the New Testament?



Luke 1:13-15 (NKJV)

"But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb."

Luke 1:41-46 (NKJV)

"And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! "But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? "For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. "Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord." And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord,"

Luke 1:67 (NKJV)

"Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:"

Acts 2:1-4 (NKJV)

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Acts 2:7,8 (NKJV)

"Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? "And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?"

Acts 2:12 (NKJV)

"So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?""

John 14:26 (NKJV)

""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 things that I said to you."

John 16:12,13 (NKJV)

""I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."

Acts 4:7-10 (NKJV)

"And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, "By what power or by what name have you done this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: "If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, "let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole."

Matthew 10:17-19 (NKJV)

""But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. "You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. "But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;"

Acts 6:3 (NKJV)

""Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;"

Acts 9:17 (NKJV)

"And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.""

Acts 13:9-11 (NKJV)

"Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? "And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand."

Acts 13:52 (NKJV)

"And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit."

Ephesians 5:18,19 (NKJV)

"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,"

I Corinthians 14:26 (NKJV)

"How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification."

Misused Bible Concepts: Being "Spirit-Filled"

- How was the term used in the Old Testament?
- How was the term used in the New Testament?
- Should we be Spirit-filled today?



I Corinthians 3:16 (NKJV)

"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"

I John 4:12 (NKJV)

"No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us."

Romans 8:10 (NKJV)

"And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness."

I Corinthians 13 (NKJV)

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

James 1:22-25 (NKJV)

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."

II Timothy 3:16,17 (NKJV)

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

II Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

"as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,"

I John 4:1 (NKJV)

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

Galatians 1:8,9 (NKJV)

"But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed."

Misused Bible Concepts: Being "Spirit-Filled"

- How was the term used in the Old Testament?
- How was the term used in the New Testament?
- Should we be Spirit-filled today?



