

## The Holy Spirit is Like the Wind

John 3:1-8

*This is our second sermon in our series "Earth, Wind, and Fire: The Work of the Holy Spirit." Today we examine how the Spirit is like the wind: invisible, powerful, and uncontrollable. The Spirit is active today in giving life.*

"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:8)

The Spirit is like the wind— but doing what, exactly? Even today the Spirit is invisibly and powerfully active in giving *life*:

### (1) The New Life

- The Spirit-given life is the new life (John 3:1-8; see also Genesis 2:7)
  
- The wind blows where it wishes! So it is with the Spirit of God.

### (2) The Beautiful Life

- The Spirit-filled life is the beautiful life (Rom 8:1-11)
  
- The Spirit vs. the flesh: the beautiful life vs. the ugliness of death (Gal 5:16-26)

### (3) The Truthful Life

- The Spirit-filled life is the truth-loving life (John 16:13)
  - One of the names of The Holy Spirit is the "Spirit of truth" (John 14:17)
  
- Like moving air / the wind, God *breathes-out* the Scriptures (2 Tim 3:16; cf. Matt 22:43, Acts 28:25, 1 John 4:6, Rev 3:6)

Jesus encourages us to *ask* for the Spirit!

- "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13)

### Questions for further reflection and application:

1. Look up the Bible passages mentioned in the sermon notes above. How is the Spirit like the wind?
2. Read Acts 7:51. Why would anyone resist the Holy Spirit rather than embracing the new, true, and beautiful life?
3. The Holy Spirit wrote a book! (2 Tim 3:16) Why is this essential to Jesus' teaching on the Spirit, and what it means to be truly "spiritual"? (John 14:17, 16:13)
4. Why does Paul contrast the Spirit and the flesh? (Gal 5:16-26, Rom 8:1-11) Is this important for understanding your own life as a believer? How so, and what should you do going forward?
5. What does Christ encourage us to do in Luke 11:13?