



METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES
For the week of Mar 11 – Mar 17, 2017
Lesson #11: **The Holy Spirit**



Grieving *and* Resisting *the* Spirit

Main Text for The Week: "*And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption*" (*Ephesians 4:30, KJV*).

Read and Meditate on these Texts:

Acts 7:51; Hebrews 10:24-25; Ephesians 4:25-5:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21; Mark 3: 28-29

Main Thought for the Week: After Adam and Eve had sinned and God could no longer have face to face communion with them, it was designed in the plan of salvation that through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, fallen man would be brought back to fellowship, communion and allegiance to God. (Nehemiah 9:20; John 16:7-11; 1 Peter 1:22; Rev 22:17).

After Jesus ascended to heaven, Pentecost signaled, **1.** Jesus' reinstatement and His restoration to the position that He occupied with the Father before His incarnation (Acts 2:33-39), **2.** The beginning of Jesus priestly ministry and **3.** The installation of God, the Holy Spirit, as the only Divine Administrator of the church and the only one who can apply the result of the intercession of Jesus to our lives in the anticipation of His return in glory. Hence it is a frightening thing to grieve and resist Him, for there is no other agent or agency to accomplish the work of salvation (Ephesians 4:13)



Resisting The Holy Spirit

Sunday Summary: March 12:

1. What is the warning given in Acts 7:51? How does it apply to us today?
 - a. Warning: _____
 - b. Application: _____
2. How is the church today like the ancient Israelites who resisted the Spirit of God? (Exodus 33:3). _____
3. **Discussion:** Each believer has a personal responsibility for making good and right decisions. But what responsibility do we have toward each other as saints of Christ? (Hebrews 10:24-25) _____

PERSONAL STUDY QUESTIONS: Do you agree that God made us with the power to choose freely? _____
Does God ever force anyone to be saved? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Grieving the Holy Spirit: Part 1

Monday Summary: March 13:

The Holy Spirit, the Third person of the Godhead, is often forgotten and ignored even by Christians. Some Christians frequently speak of the Father and the Son but seldom of the Holy Spirit. Anyone who claims to know the Father and the Son but has not achieved a right understanding of God the Holy Spirit, cannot really know the Father and the Son either because it is the Holy Spirit who reveals them. Thus it becomes important to have a right understanding of the Holy Spirit as a person so that we can surrender to Him so that He can work within us to regenerate and transform our lives (John 14:16-17, 23, Ephesians 2:18-22, 1 John 3:24, 1 Peter 1 :21)

1. What can you find in John 16:7, 8, 13 to show without a doubt that the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person? _____
2. Since the Holy Spirit is a Person, how is it possible that we may grieve Him? (Ephesians 4:30) _____

Discussion: How would you explain to a new believer in the simplest language, what does it mean to grieve the Holy Spirit? Include at least one pointed Bible Text.

Appeal: *Pause right now and say an earnest Prayer to God asking for forgiveness for the times that you may have grieved the Holy Spirit; and plead for a new anointing of the Holy Spirit in your life.* _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Grieving the Holy Spirit: Part 2

Tuesday Summary: March 14:

1. The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth (John 15:26). What does Ephesians 4:25 say about those who have the Holy Spirit? _____

2. How does the Spirit-filled life of a believer reveal itself in relations to other believers? (Ephesians 4:3, 4, 15, 32) _____

When we confess that we believe in the Truth, but how we act and behave contradicts that confession, we grieve the Holy Spirit. If we live in such a way that others realize that we truly are His children and reflect Jesus, we bring joy to the heart of God.

Discussion: How we relate to one another in the church, "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (*Eph. 4:3*) is a crucial part of not grieving the Spirit. Do you agree? Explain _____

PERSONAL STUDY QUESTION: It is a wonderful thing when you are able to explain the Prophecies of Daniel and Revelation or quote E G White precisely on any subject; but how do you treat a poor brother or sister in the church who may be in error? Does your attitude grieve the Holy Spirit? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Quenching The Holy Spirit.

Wednesday Summary: March 15:

The Holy Spirit Inspired the Bible Writers. The Word of God is a Lamp and Light to the Believer (Psalm 119:105). It is the Holy Spirit who illumines and interprets God's Word To the earnest careful searcher for truth. A careless approach to the Word of God is the initial step in the process of quenching the Holy Spirit.

1. How can one quench the Holy Spirit? (1 Thessalonians 5:19-21) _____

2. Where else in Scripture do we find the word quench? How does it relate to the idea of quenching the Holy Spirit? (Ephesians 6:16) _____

3. The Evidence that a Mango Tree is indeed a Mango Tree is because it bears Mango Fruits. How does one give evidence that the Holy Spirit abides with him/her?
 - a. (Galatians 5:22-23) _____
 - b. (Romans 8:1, 14, 15) _____

DISCUSSION THOUGHT: If having the Holy Spirit in our lives makes us victorious Christians, why is it that so many believers refuse to submit to God, the Spirit?

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Blasphemy Against The Holy Spirit

Thursday Summary: March 16:

Is there really a sin that is unpardonable? What does it really mean for someone who commits such a sin? What exactly is that sin? How does one know when he/she commits the unpardonable sin? These are piercing questions that we must answer without leaving any doubt or confusion in the mind, if we must enjoy God's peace.

1. What does Mark 3:28-29 say about the sin against the Holy Spirit? _____

2. What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? (Luke 12:10) _____

3. How does Matthew 12:31-32 relate to the issue of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?

Discussion: Think carefully on this quotation about the Scribes and Pharisees, and discuss what you understand from it:

“In the place of receiving the evidence offered them, in the place of recognizing in Christ's works the endowment of heaven, they held right on to their wicked purposes, and said, He performed this wonderful work through the devil. This was the sin against the Holy Ghost.” - Ellen G. White, *Loma Linda Messages*, p. 156

THOUGHT: The greatest tragedy that a Christian could ever commit is to mistake the Divine workings of the Holy Spirit for that of Demons and Devils. Consequently, he then sets himself up to pass the workings of Demons for that of the Holy Spirit. That indeed is double tragedy.



PERSONAL NOTES: _____

Grieving *and* Resisting *the* Spirit

Friday Summary: March 17:

THOUGHT: When the human heart is settled in stubborn opposition to God and, thus, consciously refuses to give Jesus His due, the heart is hardened and fails to acknowledge the truth of the Holy Spirit's testimony to God's saving sacrifice in Jesus Christ. This sin is beyond the possibility of forgiveness, not because God is powerless or unwilling to forgive, but because the person is not able to recognize his/her sin. Therefore, he/she does not accept forgiveness through Jesus.

1. What does 1 John 1:9 say about God's willingness to forgive all our sins? _____

2. If God is willing to forgive all our sins, why is there an unpardonable sin? (Psalm 32:5) _____

There is, really, only one person God cannot forgive, and that is the person who persistently refuses to come to Jesus for forgiveness. "*The sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit does not lie in any sudden word or deed; it is the firm, determined resistance of truth and evidence.*" - Ellen G. White Comments, *The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 5, p. 1093.



Sabbath School Lesson Notes – March 18, 2017

PERSONAL STUDY QUESTION: Were you ever seriously worried that you may have committed the unpardonable sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? _____

If yes, how has this week's study given you assurance that God's Holy Spirit still works actively in your life? _____

Appeal: Will you just praise and thank God right now for the active working of the Third Person of the Godhead in your heart and life? _____

Closing Thoughts: Metro New York World Ministry wants every member of its worldwide family to know that Holy Spirit is the Third person of the Godhead, thus He is entitled to our worship. So it becomes important that we surrender to Him as a person and in an attitude of love and confidence, be directed by Him. Let us resolve today not to grieve or resist God, the Holy Spirit.

One Christian Writer states: "It is through the agency of the Holy Spirit that God communicates with man; and those who deliberately reject this agency as satanic, have cut off the channel of communication between the soul and Heaven..... God works by the manifestation of His Spirit to reprove and convict the sinner; and if the Spirit's work is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul". (**Patriarchs & Prophets 404.4-405.1**)

PERSONAL NOTES: _____
