

BN0120W The Spirit and the Church

Offered: 2018: Semester 2

This unit serves as an introduction to an understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit as expressed in the New Testament. Students will examine selected passages in the New Testament in their first-century context and in light of their Old Testament background. Students will specifically identify and examine the roles of the Spirit as taught by Jesus and Paul in John's Gospel, Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, and Galatians, as well as the Spirit's empowering work in Acts. The themes to be surveyed include the gifts of the Spirit, the Spirit-led familial relationship with God, the Spirit-inspired mission, the Spirit of truth, and the Paraclete. Students will also discuss the implications of the work of the Spirit for the life and mission of the church today.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. outline the Old Testament background of the Spirit in the New Testament, with attention to the social and historical contexts of the relevant New Testament texts;
2. interpret selected passages in John's Gospel, Acts, and Paul's letters;
3. articulate key aspects of the relationship between the Spirit and the church in the New Testament; and
4. utilise interpretive tools to explore and explain a passage or theme concerning the Spirit and the church in the New Testament.

Prerequisites: Nil

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment: Two short answer or multiple choice tests (in total equivalent to 500 words) (20%)
Paper for presentation (1,250 word sermon, or equivalent) (40%)
An exegetical exercise (1,250 words) (40%)

Faculty: Siu Fung Wu

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Byrne, Brendan J. *Galatians and Romans*. Collegeville, MI: Liturgical Press, 2010.

Burke, Trevor and Keith Warrington, eds. *A Biblical Theology of the Holy Spirit*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2014.

Coloe, Mary L. *Dwelling in the Household of God: Johannine Ecclesiology and Spirituality*. Collegeville, MI: Liturgical Press, 1989.

Fee, Gordon D. *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1996.

Keener, Craig. *Gift and Giver*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2001.

Keener, Craig. *The Spirit in the Gospels and Acts: Divine Purity and Power*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2010.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *Knowing the Holy Spirit through the Old Testament*. Oxford, UK: Monarch, 2006.

Wright, Tom. *Acts for Everyone*. London: SPCK, 2008.

Wright, Tom. *John for Everyone*. London: SPCK, 2002