

Antioch Community Church

Discipleship Resources

Hear God. Obey. Repeat.

Appendix A - Character of God

The more you know who He is, the more you will love and trust Him.

God Is...

Divine Nature

1. *Immortal (He will not cease to exist)* - 1 Timothy 1:17
2. *Infinite* - 1 Kings 8:27; Romans 11:33
3. *Eternal* - Psalm 90:2; 2 Peter 3:8
4. *Incomprehensible* - Psalm 145:3; Isaiah 55:8-9
5. *Omnipresent (He is present everywhere)* - Jeremiah 23:23-24; Psalm 139:7-10
6. *Omnipotent (He is all-powerful)* - Matthew 19:26; Jeremiah 32:17,27
7. *Omniscient (He is all-knowing)* - Psalm 139:4; 1 John 3:20
8. *Sovereign* - Psalm 135:6; Isaiah 14:24
9. *Unchanging* - Malachi 3:6; James 1:17; Hebrews 13:8
10. *Spirit* - John 4:24; 2 Corinthians 3:17
11. *Living and True* - Jeremiah 10:10; 1 Thessalonians 1:9
12. *Life (source and sustainer)* - Psalm 36:9; Acts 17:25

Moral Nature

1. *Holy (clean and pure)* - Isaiah 6:2-3; 1 Peter 1:15-16
2. *Just* - Psalm 119:137; 1 Peter 1:17
3. *Good* - Exodus 33:19; Psalm 145:9
4. *Righteous* - Psalm 19:9; Jeremiah 9:24
5. *Truthful* - 1 Samuel 15:29; Proverbs 3:5

Personal Nature

1. *Accessible* - Deuteronomy 4:29; Jeremiah 29:13
2. *Personal* - Exodus 33:11; Psalm 139:13-15
3. *Outgoing* - 1 John 1:3; Revelation 3:20
4. *Loving* - Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:16
5. *Joyful* - Psalm 16:11; Hebrews 1:9
6. *Merciful* - Psalm 103:17; Ephesians 2:4-5; Hebrews 4:15-16
7. *Gracious* - Exodus 34:6; Ephesians 1:7
8. *Faithful* - 1 Thessalonians 5:24; 1 Corinthians 1:9
9. *Patient* - Romans 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9
10. *Dependable* - Psalm 25:2-3; Psalm 26:4
11. *Kind* - Hosea 11:4; Titus 3:4-5
12. *Gentle* - Matthew 11:28-30
13. *Generous* - Matthew 7:9-11; 2 Corinthians 9:8,10

Appendix B - Identity in Christ

In Christ...

I am Accepted

John 1:12	I am God's child
John 15:15	I am Christ's friend
Romans 5:1	I have been justified
1 Corinthians 6:17	I am united with the Lord and am one spirit with Him
1 Corinthians 6:19-20	I have been bought with a price. I belong to God
1 Corinthians 12:27	I am a member of Christ's body.
Ephesians 1:1	I am a saint
Ephesians 1:5	I have been adopted as God's child
Ephesians 2:18	I have direct access to God through the Holy Spirit
Colossians 1:14	I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins
Colossians 2:10	I am complete in Christ

I am Secure

Romans 8:1-2	I am free forever from condemnation
Romans 8:28	I am assured that all things work together for good
Romans 8:31	I am free from any condemning charges against me
Romans 8:35	I cannot be separated from the love of God
2 Corinthians 1:21-22	I have been established, anointed and sealed by God
Colossians 3:3	I am hidden with Christ in God
Philippians 1:6	I am confident God will complete in me the work He has begun
Philippians 3:20	I am a citizen of heaven
2 Timothy 1:7	I have not been given a spirit of fear but power, love and sound mind
Hebrews 4:16	I can find grace and mercy in time of need
1 John 5:18	I am born of God, and the evil one cannot touch me

I am Significant

Matthew 5:13-14	I am the salt and light of the Earth
John 15:1-5	I am a branch of the true vine, a channel of His life
John 15:16	I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit
Acts 1:8	I am a personal witness of Christ
1 Corinthians 3:16	I am God's temple
2 Corinthians 5:17	I am a minister of reconciliation for God
2 Corinthians 6:1	I am God's coworker
Ephesians 2:6	I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realm
Ephesians 2:10	I am God's workmanship
Ephesians 3:12	I may approach God with freedom and confidence
Philippians 4:13	I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

Appendix C - The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is:

- God (**Gen. 1:2; Acts 5:3-4**)
- The Comforter (**Jn. 16:7 KJV**)
- The Counselor (**Jn. 16:12-15**)
- The Empowerer (**Acts 1:8**)
- The Sealer (**Eph. 1:13-14**)
- A Person (**Rev. 22:17**)
- The Convictor (**Jn. 16:8**)
- The Teacher (**Jn. 14:26**)
- The Presence of Jesus in the here and now (**Matt. 28:20**)

The Holy Spirit is not:

- a mystical fog (**Isa. 11:2**)
- a spirit of fear (**Rom. 8:15; 2 Tim. 1:7**)
- an impersonal power source to make meetings better (**Jn. 15:26**)
- Casper the Friendly Ghost (**Acts 5:1-11**)
- A power to be used for your own selfish gain (**Acts 8:9-25**)

The Holy Spirit is described as:

- a dove (**Matt. 3:17; Luke 3:22**)
- wind (**Jn. 3:8; Acts 2:2**)
- oil (**Heb. 1:9**)
- fire (**Matt. 3:11**)
- water (**Jn. 7:37-39**)
- wine (**Acts 2:13**)
- a “down payment” guaranteeing our salvation (**2 Cor. 1:21-22**)
- a sensitive entity that can be quenched or grieved because of sin (**Eph. 4:29-30; 1 Thess. 5:18-19**)

You receive the Holy Spirit upon accepting Jesus...

The Holy Spirit seals you -- He puts the imprint of God upon you, securing your salvation and depositing in you various gifts and revelations of Jesus Christ. These are a down payment for everything you will receive when you are raised from the dead (**Eph. 1:13-14**). You know you are “sealed” in the Holy Spirit when you exhibit faith in Jesus and a love for other Christians (**Eph. 1:15**).

But there is more...

The baptism or infilling of the Holy Spirit is more than a one-time experience. In the early church, the same disciples:

- received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed on them (**Jn. 20:22**)
- were filled with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (**Acts 2:4**)
- were filled with the Holy Spirit after prayer (**Acts 4:31**)

*Paul viewed the baptism of the Holy Spirit as a necessary qualification for walking out the Christian life. He commands the Ephesian Christians to be filled with the Holy Spirit (**Eph. 5:18**).

What does the Baptism of the Holy Spirit do?

- He forms Christ’s character in you (**Isa. 11:1-5; Gal. 5:22-23**)

- He clothes you with Christ's power to do the works that Christ did, and even greater ones (**Isa. 61:1-3**)
- He increases your faith (**Jude 20**)
- He enables you to pray...
 - continually (**1 Thess. 5:17**)
 - when you don't know what to pray (**Rom. 8:26-27**)
- He allows you to receive spiritual gifts (**1 Cor. Chapters 12-14**)
- He allows you to operate in specialized spiritual functions (**Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:27-31; Eph. 4:11-13**)
- He fulfills the prophecy of **Joel 2:28-32 (see Acts 2:16-21)**

How did the first Christians receive the Holy Spirit?

In the New Testament, it never happened the same way twice:

- Jesus received the Holy Spirit as a dove descending on Him, and heard the voice of God declaring His favor on Him (**Matt. 3:16-17**).
- The first Christians were filled with the Holy Spirit as they waited on the Lord in prayer and worship. They did this in accordance with Jesus' instructions (**Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8**).
- A blinded and humbled Saul was filled with the Holy Spirit when Ananias laid his hands on him. Saul received back his sight, arose, and was baptized (**Acts 9:17, 19**). Saul later became Paul.
- Cornelius' household spontaneously received the gift of the Holy Spirit when Peter preached the gospel to them. They received the Holy Spirit before they were baptized in water (**Acts 10:44-48**).
- Peter and John laid their hands on believers who had been baptized but had not yet received the Holy Spirit. For these Christians, getting saved and receiving the Holy Spirit were two separate experiences (**Acts 8:14-17; note verse 16**).
- Paul laid his hands on men who had just been saved, and they received the gift of the Holy Spirit. These men told Paul, "We have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit" (**Acts 19:1-7**).

Though the manner was different, each person receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit manifested at least one of five things:

- **Boldness**: the ability to do the will of the Lord in the face of fear (**Acts 4:31**)
- **Joy**: real joy based on a knowledge of God, not on feelings or circumstances (**Acts 13:52**)
- **Tongues**: other languages, both natural and supernatural in dialect (**Acts 2:4-11; Acts 10:46; 1 Cor. 14:2**)
- **Supernatural power**: the ability to do the miraculous works of Christ (**Acts 4:33-35; Mk. 16:17-18**)
- **Prophecy**: speaking the thoughts of God in love (**Acts 19:6; 1 Cor. 14:3**)

How do I receive the Holy Spirit?

- Cultivate a hunger and thirst for righteousness (**Matt. 5:6**)
- Cultivate an eager desire for spiritual gifts (**1 Cor.14:1**)
- Confess your sins and drop every wall of fear (**Rom. 8:15; 2 Tim. 1:6-7**)
- Have someone lay hands on you and pray (**Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; 2 Tim. 1:6**)
- Trust that God eagerly desires to give you the Holy Spirit when you ask Him (**Lk. 11:9-13**)
- Ask and receive (**Matt. 7:7-11**)
- Look to God and begin with praise and thanksgiving (**Eph. 5:18-20**)
- You receive the Holy Spirit by faith, just as you walk with the Lord by faith (**Gal. 3:2,14; Rom. 1:17**)

*As a general rule, the Holy Spirit will not forcibly compel you to do anything. You have to eagerly desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit. As the Holy Spirit responds to your hunger, you respond to His presence in faith and with a sincere heart.

Appendix D - Brokenness

Understanding Pride/Insecurity. Cultivating True Humility - *Nancy Leigh DeMoss*

Manifestations of Pride (Rooted in Arrogance and/or Insecurity)

a focus on the failures of others.

self-righteous; a critical fault-finding spirit. look at your own life/failures with a telescope but others with a microscope.

look down on others.

independent; a self-sufficient spirit.

maintain control; must have your way.

must prove you are right.

claim personal rights.

a demanding spirit.

self-protective of time, rights, reputation.

a desire to be served.

a desire to be a success.

a desire for self-advancement.

driven to be recognized and appreciated; wounded when others are promoted and you are overlooked.

think "the ministry is privileged to have me."

think of what you can do for God.

feel confident in how much you know; try to impress people with your own knowledge of something.

self-conscious.

keep people at arm's length.

quick to blame others.

unapproachable.

defensive when criticized.

concerned with being respectable.

concerned about what others think.

maintain image and protect reputation.

difficulty sharing spiritual needs with others.

difficulty moving at deep levels of grace, mercy, love.

want to be sure no one finds out about your sin.

a hard time saying, "I was wrong. will you forgive me?" wait for the other party to come and ask forgiveness in a conflict.

deal in generalities when confessing sin.

concerned about the consequences of your sin; remorseful for being caught.

compare yourself with others and feel deserving of honor.

blind to your true heart condition.

don't think you have anything of which to repent.

don't think you need revival (but think everybody else does).

Evidences of Humility (Rooted in Authentic Brokenness)

overwhelmed with your own spiritual need.

compassionate; have a forgiving spirit; look for the best in others.

esteem others better than yourself.

a dependent spirit; willing to let others help.

surrender control.

willing to yield the right to be right.

yield personal rights.

a generous/giving spirit.

self-denying.

motivated to serve and bless others.

a desire to be faithful to make others a success.

a desire to promote others.

eager for others to get the credit; rejoice when others are promoted

thrilled to be used at all. think "I don't deserve to serve in this ministry."

know that you have nothing to offer God.

humbled by how much you have to learn; know that true wisdom is worked through humility.

lose yourself as you focus on God and others.

vulnerable; take the risk of loving intimately. risk being misunderstood.

accept personal responsibility; can see where you were wrong.

easy to be entreated/challenged/rebuked.

receive criticism with a humble, open heart.

concerned with being real/genuine/authentic.

know all that matters is what God knows.

die to your own reputation.

willing to be transparent with others.

exhibit the fruit of the spirit; a safe place for someone in need.

willing to be exposed; know once broken, you have nothing to lose.

quick to admit fault and seek forgiveness.

deal in specifics when confessing sin.

grieved over the root of your sin; see God's discipline as His love.

compare yourself with the holiness of God and feel desperate for mercy.

walk in the light; invite others to watch your blind spots.

a continual heart attitude toward repentance.

continually sense your need for a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Appendix F - Interpersonal Competencies

Flexibility - Welcomes new possibilities and copes effectively with ambiguity, change and stress.

Compatible Behaviors

- Adapts well to new situations or circumstances
- Responds to reversals and setbacks in a constructive manner
- Is willing to experiment with others' ideas

Incompatible Behaviors

- Loses patience quickly
- Becomes upset when things don't go his/her way
- Is unable to encourage and accept new or different ideas

Like-ability - Is friendly, pleasant, and attractive to others.

Compatible Behaviors

- Communicates warmth and personal interest with strangers
- Is tactful when dealing with difficult situations
- Is consistently enjoyable to be with

Incompatible Behaviors

- Frequently demonstrates feelings of irritation and resentment
- Is not gentle or understanding with those who are struggling

Emotional Stability - Maintains emotional balance; patient and sincere; able to laugh at him/herself.

Compatible Behaviors

- Is comfortable in his/her own skin
- Copes with stress calmly
- Sees problems as opportunities for growth

Incompatible Behaviors

- Is confrontational or defensive
- Handles problems with impatience and irritation
- Handles mistakes/failures/disappointments with a sense of injured ego

Sensitivity - Demonstrates love and kindness to all people. Is sensitive to the hurts and pains of others.

Compatible Behaviors

- Is aware of the hurts and pains of others
- Provides support to those inside and outside the faith community
- Is understanding towards “difficult” people

Incompatible Behaviors

- Refers hurting people to others instead of offering immediate personal help
- Is judgmental of people who are “different”
- Disregards or avoids “difficult” people