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**From the very beginning God reveals Himself in the Bible as Father, Creator of the universe and all Powerful, all Knowing and ever Present.**



**Present with Him in Heaven is Jesus, who was also there from the beginning; the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. Colossians 1:15**



**Hovering over the created universe even before the beginning was the Holy Spirit... the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Genesis 1:2**



**The Holy Spirit is sometimes portrayed as a dove.**

**For example when Jesus was baptised, a dove was seen to come down onto Him. As He was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove. Luke 3:21**



**The Holy Spirit also comes as fire as when He came on the followers of Jesus in an upstairs room where they were praying. They were all together in one place. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. Acts 2:1&3**



**Moses saw a fire in a bush that did not burn, and God spoke to Moses from out of the bush. The angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within the bush. Exodus 3:2.**

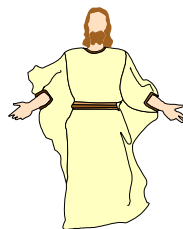
**So the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. When we open our hearts and our minds to what Jesus has done for us when He died on the Cross, and permit Him to be Lord over our lives, God gives us His Spirit as a seal. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13**



(says the Lord)

**But this is only the beginning of our journey with God.** He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6.

**This is the day when Jesus actually returns to take us to be with Him forever. Some may go to be with Him before this day, if we have finished our life here on the earth.**



**The seal is God's promise and this glory becomes more visible in us if we are obedient to His voice which speaks into our hearts. The Bible tells us some very encouraging things about the Holy Spirit.**

**First God really wants us to have Him in our lives.**

If you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. Luke 11:13. **Jesus says**, No one can enter the Kingdom of heaven unless he/she is born of water and the Spirit. John 3:5 **Paul writes**, The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Romans 8:16

**That seal on our hearts speaks to our spirit – our inner self – that we are precious children of our heavenly Father. He disciplines those He loves just like any good father so we change more into His likeness. Heavenly Father looks on us as He made us to be, not as we presently are in a sinful world.**

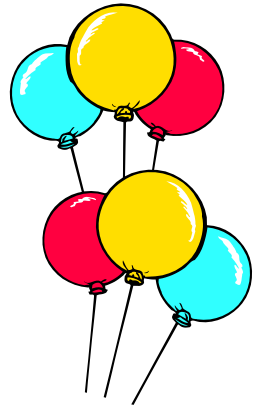


**When we long to be as innocent as we were when very young children Jesus says, Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke and learn from Me ... Matthew 11:28&29**

**This rest Jesus offers is rest from guilt, frustration, fears, and other negative things that plague us, and then Jesus, by His Holy Spirit in our lives, fills our hearts and minds with hope, strength, and faith in God and in ourselves as His children.**

**You can ask God to give you His Holy Spirit in a short prayer.**

**I turn to You, God,  
and ask You to forgive me.  
I would love to receive  
Your Holy Spirit into my life.  
Please wash me clean  
and give me this gift.  
Thank you Jesus that you  
made this possible when  
You died on the Cross.  
I receive this gift by faith.**



**Jesus says there is rejoicing in Heaven when a sinner repents (turns to God). Luke 15:7**

