

Christmas Spirit – Birthing the Impossible

Pastor John Carmichael

[Luk 1:35-38 NASB95] 35 The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. 36 "And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. 37 "For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

- Have you ever heard of the Christmas Spirit? This usually refers to getting in the mood for Christmas. Those who are Grinches, or are recovering Grinches like myself, have been accused of not having the Christmas Spirit.
- The Christmas story does talk about the Christmas Spirit. It is not about getting in the mood for Christmas but about a deep and powerful relationship with the Holy Spirit, the 3rd person of the Trinity.
- In Luke 1, we read about the role of the Holy Spirit in the conception of Christ. This was necessary for Christ to fulfill the ultimate plan of redemption.
- The Holy Spirit plays a vital role in our lives to fulfill God's plan. In fact, without the Holy Spirit, we will not fulfill the plan of God in our lives.

What role does the Holy Spirit play in our lives and what are the characteristics of a person with whom the Holy Spirit works?

We see four roles the Holy Spirit plays in our lives and three characteristics of a person with whom the Holy Spirit works.

I. What role does the Holy Spirit play in your life? Luke 1:35,37

- A. Luke 1:35 nearly parallels [Act 1:8 NASB95] 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."
- B. The Holy Spirit comes upon you. [Jhn 20:22 NASB95] 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
- C. The Holy Spirit empowers you. [Luk 24:49 NASB95] 49 "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."
- D. The Holy Spirit uses you. [Act 10:38 NASB95] 38 "[You know of] Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and [how] He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.
- E. The Holy Spirit will do the impossible through you.

II. What are the characteristics of the person whom the Holy Spirit works in their life? Luke 1:37-38

- A. The Holy Spirit engages with a surrendered person.
 - a. [Gal 5:25 NASB95] 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.
 - b. Opposite:
 - i. [Eph 4:30 NASB95] 30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
 - ii. [1Th 5:19 NASB95] 19 Do not quench the Spirit;
 - iii. [Act 7:51 NASB95] 51 "You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did.

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- B. The Holy Spirit enacts the Word that is received. [Gen 1:2-3 NASB95] 2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
- C. The Holy Spirit empowers faith for the impossible. [Zec 4:6 NASB95] 6 Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts.

- **We need the Holy Spirit to fulfill God's plan for our lives.**