

## **OUR HIDDEN ADVANTAGE**

### **Part 1: Introduction to the Holy Spirit**

#### **JOHN 16:7 NKJV**

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

#### **DON'T DIMINISH OUR ADVANTAGE**

- A. An important part of our church mandate (**2 Corinthians 13:14 NKJV**)
  - 1. We major on the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - 2. We major on the love of God
  - 3. We should not ignore the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
- B. We want to utilize our advantage
  - 1. Recognize Him - from the scriptures
    - a. The third person of the Godhead (**Matthew 28:19 NKJV**)
  - 2. Respect Him - as fully God
    - a. Not an abstract force (**Acts 5:3-4 NKJV**)
  - 3. Respond to Him - obeying His leadership in our lives (**Romans 8:14 NKJV**)
    - a. Understanding He will lead us changes how we operate

#### **WHY THE HESITANCY ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

- A. Lack of understanding of who He is and His role
  - 1. Understanding based on a solid biblical foundation (**Romans 10:14 NKJV**)
    - a. Often, what we are not up on, we are down on
  - 2. A lack of understanding can cause a negative reaction (**John 6:60 & 66 NKJV**)
    - a. Some followers of Jesus walked away from Him
- B. Misinformation
  - 1. Not recognizing His present-day work (**Romans 8:16 NKJV**)
    - a. He lets us know we are children of God
  - 2. People using other people as God's standard
    - a. The scriptures are our standard - not others' experience
  - 3. Blaming weirdness on the Holy Spirit
    - a. He is not weird; He is God and sound in mind (**2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV**)
- C. The Holy Spirit is harder to personify
  - 1. We can relate to Jesus the Son and grasp God the Father
  - 2. The Holy Spirit is fully God and likened to...
    - a. Rivers of living water (**John 7:37-39 NKJV**)
    - b. A dove (**John 1:32-33 NKJV**)
    - c. Wind and fire (**Acts 2:1-4 NKJV**)
- D. Satan is the author of confusion, not God
  - 1. He does not want believers filled with purpose and power (**Acts 1:8 NKJV**)