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# Trinitarian Fellowship

### MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

Companionship plays a large role in the life of Christians and non-Christians alike. It is wonderful to possess friends and loved ones with whom you can reveal the inner workings of your heart without fear, rejection, and spite. We don't need to explain ourselves or our emotions to these loved ones. They know us just as we know them. The Father, Son, and Spirit experience this mutual love, openness, and adoration in a manner that cannot be explained or replicated. When Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit, He marveled at the work of His companion, the Holy Spirit, who sought to bring about the purposes of the Father so that the Savior, who He had nurtured and preserved throughout His entire life, might achieve the joy the Father had intended for Him since the beginning of time.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-15, 17-21; 10:21-24; 11:14-23; 12:10; John 10:14-18; 14:15-17

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the role of the Spirit in Jesus' life and ministry
2. To comprehend what it means when Scripture describes Jesus as "rejoicing in the Spirit"
3. To see the heinousness of blaspheming the Holy Spirit
4. To appreciate the intimacy of the Spirit with the Son

## QUOTATION

*In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."*

—Luke 10:21–22

## LECTURE OUTLINE

- I. The Role of the Holy Spirit in the Life and Ministry of Jesus
  - A. The Holy Spirit enabled Jesus to loose His people from the bondage of sin.
    - i. Luke 4:17–21: Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1–2 at the synagogue in Nazareth.
    - ii. The Spirit's anointing of Jesus allowed Him to say to the people that He had come to take away their sin and liberate them from their depravity.
  - B. The Spirit enabled Jesus to bring restoration during His ministry in a manner never before seen in redemptive history.
    - i. Jesus healed many and brought restoration to a sick and hurting land.
    - ii. Jesus did not heal everyone, but He brought healing and restoration in order to provide a glimpse of the future, permanent restoration.
  - C. The Spirit enabled Jesus to deliver the oppressed from demonic bondage.
    - i. The ministry of Jesus witnessed the largest influx of demonic activity in the history of the world.
      1. Demonic forces understood their time of preeminence was drawing to a close.
      2. Their master had been thwarted by Jesus and they sought to strike at Him in a last-ditch effort to prevent His salvific work.
    - ii. The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus to establish His kingdom and defeat His demonic opponents.
- II. Jesus Rejoiced in the Holy Spirit
  - A. Luke 10:21–24 displays the special communion Jesus has with the Holy Spirit.
    - i. Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit upon hearing about the works of His disciples.
      1. Jesus marvels at the Spirit's activity in His disciples for the kingdom.
      2. In ecstatic joy, Jesus thanks His Father for the communion He has with Him and the Spirit.
    - ii. The Spirit worked in the disciples to enhance and further Jesus' kingdom.
  - B. Jesus proclaims that blaspheming the Holy Spirit is an unforgivable sin (Luke 12:10).

- i. When Jesus refers to blaspheming the Holy Spirit, He means resisting the ministry of the Spirit.
- ii. When one resists the Spirit, he resists the will of the Father. Resistance to the will of the Spirit strikes at the joy of Jesus, which is the foremost goal of the Father.
  1. The Spirit worked in the life of Jesus to increase His wisdom and stature, which in turn increased the Father's favor toward Him.
  2. Jesus stated that the Father loved Him because of His willingness to lay down His life for His sheep (John 10:14–17). In a human way of speaking, Jesus found the utmost favor of His Father in this act, for which the Spirit prepared and fortified Him.

### STUDY QUESTIONS

1. All inhabitants of Nazareth accepted Jesus' declaration that He was the Spirit-filled Messiah prophesied by Isaiah.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. The Bible contains a vast number of accounts chronicling demonic activity and demonic possessions.
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit when He heard the disciples recounting their exploits (as recorded in Luke 10) because He marveled at the Spirit's activity.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. Jesus declares the unforgivable sin to be \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - a. dishonoring father or mother
  - b. blaspheming the Holy Spirit
  - c. blaspheming the Son of God
  - d. murder
5. The Father's love for Jesus was never greater than at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - a. baptism
  - b. crucifixion
  - c. birth
  - d. circumcision

**BIBLE STUDY AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Why did Jesus choose Isaiah 61:1–2 to read at the synagogue in Nazareth? What does this passage say about the role of the Holy Spirit in the life and ministry of Jesus?
2. Why did Jesus perform miracles? What do the miracles signify, and what insight do they give us about the future?
3. Why is there such a concentration of demons in Israel during the time of Jesus' ministry? What role does the Holy Spirit play in Jesus activity?
4. What does it mean when Scripture states that Jesus "rejoiced in the Spirit"?
5. Why does Jesus proclaim blaspheming the Holy Spirit to be an unforgivable sin? Why is it so heinous?