

# God the Holy Spirit

## Session 1

### Caricatures of the Spirit

1. The Force
2. Formula
3. Feelings
4. Foreign

### The Spirit in the Creed

*“We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.”*

### Biblical Survey

- The Spirit is present and active in the work of creation.
  - *“The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”* - Gen. 1:2
  - *“We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.”*
  - John 3:5-8
  - Bezalel and Oholiab - Exodus 31:1-6
- The Spirit empowers God’s appointed leaders.
  - For specific acts and roles (Judg. 2:18, 3:10, 6:34, 11:29, 14:19, 15:14, 1 Sam. 10:10, 11:6, 16:13)
  - The Holy Spirit can depart from leaders (1 Sam. 18:12, Psalm 51:11)

- The Spirit reveals himself to and through the prophets.
  - *“No prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”* - 2 Peter 1:21
  - Even to the unlikely of people (Numbers 22-24)
- The Spirit is present and active in the Incarnation.
  - Conceived Jesus in Mary’s womb (Luke 1:35)
  - Filled those who preceded and pointed to Jesus (John the Baptist in Luke 1:15, Elizabeth in Luke 1:41, and Zechariah in Luke 1:67)
  - Confirmed Jesus’ identity and work at his baptism (Matt. 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-15, John 1:29-34)
  - Empowers Jesus’ earthly ministry (Luke 4:1, 4:14, 4:18, Isaiah 11:2, Isaiah 61:1-3)
- The Spirit builds the church at Pentecost and beyond – redeeming and restoring.
  - Gives power for witness (Acts 1:4, 1:8, 2:3-4, 2:38)
  - Reveals Jesus (Acts 7:54-60, John 14:26, 1 Cor. 2:11)
  - Confirms those who believe (Acts 10:44-48)
  - Transforms those who believe (Ezek. 36:27, Romans 5:5, Romans 15:13, John 14:16)