

LIFE IN THE WORD

SERIES:

**LIVING WITH A STIFF NECK
(RESISTING THE HOLY
SPIRIT)**

**LESSON EIGHT:
GRIEVING THE HOLY
SPIRIT**

**FOUNDATION
SCRIPTURE
ACTS 7:51**

**ACTS 7:51, YOU STIFF-NECKED PEOPLE,
UNCIRCUMCISED IN HEART AND EARS, YOU ALWAYS
RESIST THE HOLY SPIRIT. AS YOUR FATHERS DID, SO
DO YOU.**

**EPHESIANS 4:30, AND DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY
SPIRIT OF GOD, BY WHOM YOU WERE SEALED FOR
THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.**

**LESSON EIGHT:
GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

GRIEVE MEANS “TO BE IN HEAVINESS” OR “TO BE SORROWFUL.” TO AVOID ACTIONS OR ATTITUDES THAT CAUSE SADNESS, DISTRESS, OR EMOTIONAL PAIN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

TO BE "SEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT" MEANS BELIEVERS ARE MARKED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AS A SYMBOL OF GOD'S OWNERSHIP, PROTECTION AND EMPOWERMENT.

**THE "DAY OF REDEMPTION" IS THAT
FUTURE DAY WHEN WE WILL ALL BE
RESURRECTED, CHANGED, AND RECEIVE
OUR RESURRECTED BODIES.**

**IN THE CONTEXT OF GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT,
“GRIEF” REFERS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT’S HOLY
DISPLEASURE WITH SIN AND DISOBEDIENCE IN THE
LIVES OF BELIEVERS.**

EPHESIANS 4:30-32, DO NOT LET ANY UNWHOLESOME TALK COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTHS, BUT ONLY WHAT IS HELPFUL FOR BUILDING OTHERS UP ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS, THAT IT MAY BENEFIT THOSE WHO LISTEN. AND DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD, WITH WHOM YOU WERE SEALED FOR THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.

GET RID OF ALL BITTERNESS, RAGE AND ANGER, BRAWLING AND SLANDER, ALONG WITH EVERY FORM OF MALICE. BE KIND AND COMPASSIONATE TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING EACH OTHER, JUST AS IN CHRIST GOD FORGAVE YOU.

**WHAT GRIEVES THE HOLY SPIRIT IS
NOT HOW YOU MINISTER BUT HOW
YOU LIVE.**

**EPHESIANS 4:31-32, LET ALL BITTERNESS, AND
WRATH, AND ANGER, AND CLAMOR, AND EVIL
SPEAKING, BE PUT AWAY FROM YOU, WITH ALL
MALICE. AND BE KIND TO ANOTHER,
TENDERHEARTED, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, EVEN
AS GOD IN CHRIST FORGAVE YOU.**

**FIVE OFFENSES THAT CAN
GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

1. BITTERNESS

**“A LONGSTANDING RESENTMENT; A SPIRIT WHICH
REFUSES TO BECOME RECONCILED.”**

2. ANGER

SMOLDERING RESENTMENT; IT IS A DEEP-SEATED SPIRIT OF ILL-WILL; IT IS A KIND OF SELFISH, SINFUL, ILL-TEMPER THAT SIMMERS ON FOR DAYS

3. WRATH

**STORMS OF UNCONTROLLED TEMPER. WRATH IS THE
KIND OF ANGER THAT QUICKLY FLARES UP AND
JUST AS QUICKLY DIES DOWN.**

4.CLAMOR

LOUD, INSULTING LANGUAGE. IT SPEAKS OF RAISED VOICES, VIOLENT ARGUMENTS, AND YELLING AT ONE ANOTHER.

5. EVIL SPEAKING

**TO “SPEAK EVIL” OF ANOTHER IS TO REHEARSE
THE SHORTCOMINGS OF THE OTHER PERSON
WITH A CRITICAL, FAULT-FINDING SPIRIT.**

**TEN PROACTIVE STEPS OF FAITH TO
AVOID GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

**1. CULTIVATE A CONSISTENT PRAYER
LIFE.**

**2. REGULARLY READ AND MEDITATE ON
THE TEACHING OF GOD'S WORD.**

**3. RECOGNIZE SIN IN YOUR LIFE, CONFESS
IT TO GOD AND REPENT.**

4. CULTIVATE A HEART OF GRATITUDE.

**5. SEEK TO MANIFEST THE FRUIT OF THE
SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE.**

**6. STRIVE TO LIVE A LIFE THAT IS
ALIGNED WITH GOD'S COMMANDMENTS.**

7. GUARD YOUR HEART AND MIND.

**8. SURROUND YOURSELF WITH A
COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS.**

**9. BE ATTENTIVE TO THE PROMPTINGS
AND CONVICTIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

**10. TREAT OTHERS WITH KINDNESS,
COMPASSION, AND RESPECT.**

MY CONFESSION

**STARTING TODAY, I MAKE THE CHOICE TO
WALK AWAY FROM EVERYTHING IN MY
LIFE THAT IS DISPLEASESING AND
DESECRATING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT'S
PRESENCE WITHIN ME. I WALK AWAY
FROM EVERY NEGATIVE THOUGHT, WORD,
AND DEED THAT HAS TRIED TO OPERATE
IN ME AND THAT IS DISHONORING TO HIM.**

**I TURN THE OTHER DIRECTION TO WALK A
NEW WALK AND TALK A NEW TALK THAT
SHOWS RESPECT AND LOVE FOR THE
SPIRIT OF GOD WHO DWELLS INSIDE ME. I
DECLARE THIS BY FAITH IN JESUS' NAME!**

FOLLOW UP CHAT QUESTIONS:

1. WHAT IS MEANT BY “GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT?”

2. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN?

3. WHAT IS MEANT BY THE PHRASE “SEAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT?”

4. LIST THE FIVE OFFENSES THAT CAN GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT. EXPLAIN.

5. HOW CAN NEGATIVE RELATIONSHIPS ASSIST IN GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT?

6. LIST WAYS YOU CAN AVOID GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT.

7. NAME ONE TAKEAWAY FROM TODAY’S LESSON.