

Holy and Unholy Spirit

John Greenwood

Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

1. The author shares a story of seeing trees alongside a path that were bent and stunted because of the force of the wind. He couldn't see the wind, but could see and feel the energy it produces. What do the signs of Divine activity in your life look like?
2. Scripture frequently points to a contrast between the holy Spirit of God and the unholy or profane spirit of human beings. Which example given by the author do you find the most compelling?
3. The total transformation God seeks cannot be achieved by willpower alone. Paul connects the need to work out your salvation with the fact that it is God who works in you. Neither is complete on its own. What does this look like in your life? What does it look like to let go of willpower and allow God to work?
4. Within our spiritual community there has often been an undue emphasis on working out our salvation, as though the more we work, the greater our hope of the kingdom. Do you see this emphasis in your immediate faith community? What would a shift look like?
5. The conclusions of this article encourage us to accept God's help to reflect his holy character in our lives. How is God helping you reflect his character, the fruit of the Spirit?
6. Our natural excitement about the future kingdom can diminish our appreciation of what God promises for the present. The Spirit binds together the present and the future. What is God promising for the present?
7. How do you experience the active presence of God and Jesus in your life?