

Bible Study Based on the Readings of Pentecost Sunday in the Maronite Catholic Church

Opening Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Introduction:

Few years ago, at a high school Baccalaureate Mass, the priest invited the seniors in his homily to keep three words in their mind and repeat them daily as often as possible “Come Holy Spirit”. Three simple words that can change the course of your day if you use them often throughout the day with faith and trust that the Holy Spirit will come and help you. We all need the Holy Spirit, we need Him to guide us, to lead us, to enlighten us, to strengthen us, to console us, to fill us with His seven gifts... When we got baptized, we all received the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. However, the Holy Spirit remains unknown to many of us, no wonder why He is called the Forgotten God although His presence within us converts us from sinners to saints. Yes, He plays a major role in making us saints.

Are you confused or distressed? Do you need strength in these unprecedented times we are in? Maybe this can be a great time to open your heart more to Christ and ask Him to send you the Paraclete, the Consoler whom He promised to send. Perhaps God is working in your life right now in the midst of this confusing situation that really hurts and isolates us from each other. It is possible that this is an opportunity for you to get to know the Holy Spirit on a more personal level as you come face-to-face with the realization that you cannot control the situation and that you are lonely, empty, or broken and in a great need of Him?

May this Bible Study awaken us to the importance of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity in our life, help us to grow in our personal relationship with Him, to live in His power and use His gifts and experience rebirth as the Church celebrates her birth on Pentecost.

Helpful tips and disclaimer:

- 1- The Lord meets us where we are. You don't need to have any specific background in scriptures or theology to delve into the Word of God. All you need is to have an open and receptive heart while desiring to grow closer to the Lord, a Bible to use to read the scriptures and a pen to write your own answers and comments. It is helpful to print it and write on it.
- 2- Don't approach this Bible Study as a mere intellectual work. It is helpful to have an open mind willing to search for the truth. Yet consider it as an opportunity to experience God's love and faithfulness through His word, make the best out of it, set up daily time for five days with no distractions to go through it, begin every day with the opening prayer, read every scripture referenced and most importantly quiet your heart and enjoy His presence at the end of every day's lesson. (Answer key follows the resolution)
- 3- Keep in mind that we will never be able completely to figure out the Holy Spirit. We cannot comprehend the immensity of the Holy Trinity nor specifically the third person of the Holy Trinity; He is God and He can't be contained in a box of definitions according to our own human

understanding. As Proverbs 3:5 says, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding”. Trust that the Holy Spirit is taking you to a deeper, better place spiritually, regardless of where you begin; you are in for an adventure to know and encounter more profoundly the Spirit of Love.

- 4- CCC refers to the Catechism of the Catholic Church
- 5- The format for this Bible Study is similar to Walking With Purpose Bible Study founded by Lisa Brenninkmeyer. You can check [their website](#) for the different studies available.

Day 1 – Read Acts 2:1-4

- 1- Where were the disciples on Pentecost? What were they doing? Were the disciples alone? Refer to Acts 1:12-14.

- 2- If Pentecost marks the birth of the Church with the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, what does Pentecost represent in the Old Testament? When was it celebrated? Refer to Deuteronomy 16:16, Exodus 23:14-16, Leviticus 23: 15-17.

Pentecost, or the feast of weeks, was one of the three pilgrim feasts when all males appear before the Lord in Jerusalem. At this harvest festival, taking place fifty days after the Passover, people brought their first fruits offering to the Lord. Over time, Pentecost took on a theological meaning by celebrating the Torah given to Israel on Mt. Sinai. For us, it celebrates the new law of the Spirit (Romans 8:2), written on the hearts of believers (2 Cor 3:4-6) which surpasses the law of Moses, inscribed on stone tablets (Exodus 31:18) ¹. Do you realize the Lord wants to inscribe on your heart the law of love through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit within you?

- 3- According to CCC 691, the term "Spirit" translates the Hebrew word *ruah*, which, in its primary sense, means breath, air, wind. Jesus indeed uses the sensory image of the wind to suggest to Nicodemus the transcendent newness of him who is personally God's breath, the Divine Spirit.” Read the following scriptures and notice the Holy Spirit’s involvement in the creation at the very beginning.

Genesis 1:2 –

Genesis 8:1 –

Do you realize the Holy Spirit wants to breathe divine life into your being? Do you want to invite Him in to create you and renew you?

Go into your inner room and invite the Holy Spirit to fill you...He is longing for you

Cardinal Mercier gave a practical formula for happiness, a secret to holiness:

"Every day for five minutes control your imagination and close your eyes to the things of sense and

¹ Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, RSV, 209

your ears to all the noises of the world, in order to enter into yourself. Then, in the sanctity of your baptized soul (which is the temple of the Holy Spirit), speak to that Divine Spirit, saying to Him:

O Holy Spirit, beloved of my soul, I adore You. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I should do; give me Your orders. I promise to submit myself to all that You desire of me and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Let me only know Your Will.

If you do this, your life will flow along happily, serenely, and full of consolation, even in the midst of trials. Grace will be proportioned to the trial, giving you the strength to carry it and you will arrive at the Gate of Paradise, laden with merit. This submission to the Holy Spirit is the secret of sanctity."

Day 2 – Read Acts 2:1-4

1- The Holy Spirit as "tongues as of fire" rested on the disciples on the morning of Pentecost. Read the following scriptures and CCC 696 to understand more about this symbol of the Holy Spirit.
Sirach 48:1 –

1 Kings 18:38 –

CCC 696 - While water signifies birth and the fruitfulness of life given in the Holy Spirit, fire symbolizes the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit's actions. The prayer of the prophet Elijah, who "arose like fire" and whose "word burned like a torch," brought down fire from heaven on the sacrifice on Mount Carmel. This event was a "figure" of the fire of the Holy Spirit, who transforms what he touches. John the Baptist, who goes "before [the Lord] in the spirit and power of Elijah," proclaims Christ as the one who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Jesus will say of the Spirit: "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!". In the form of tongues "as of fire," the Holy Spirit rests on the disciples on the morning of Pentecost and fills them with himself. The spiritual tradition has retained this symbolism of fire as one of the most expressive images of the Holy Spirit's actions. "Do not quench the Spirit."

2- The descent of the Holy Spirit is described dramatically in verses 2-3 and recalls the coming of the Spirit on Mt Sinai during the Exodus (Ex 19:16-19). Do you realize that the Holy Spirit wants to set your hearts on fire today with love for God the Father and the Son? He probably won't come with a mighty loud noise like the first Pentecost yet His effects can be as great as the degree of your openness and willingness to receive Him. Are you opening your heart to Him? Do you invoke him often? Come Holy Spirit!

3- Read the following verses and note the effects of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.
Acts 1:8 –

Acts 4:8 -

Acts 4:31 –

Acts 9:17 –

Acts 13:2 -

Acts 13:9 –

Go into your inner room and invite the Holy Spirit to fill you...He will not impose Himself

The Holy Spirit is gentle, He waits for your invitation to come into your heart. Recall Revelation 3:20 “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, [then] I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.”

If we do invite Him in, the Holy Spirit will search our hearts and bring to surface things that you might not recognize within yourself. As He reveals them, He will be with you and give you the strength and the courage to ask for forgiveness. He will provide you with the means to transform those very areas of your greatest struggle. Will you open the door of your heart and invite the Holy Spirit in?

Only one thing is important -- eternal salvation. Only one thing, therefore, is to be feared--sin? Sin is the result of ignorance, weakness, and indifference. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Light, of Strength, and of Love. With His sevenfold gifts He enlightens the mind, strengthens the will, and inflames the heart with love of God. To ensure our salvation we ought to invoke the Divine Spirit daily, for 'The Spirit helps our infirmity. We know not what we should pray for as we ought. But the Spirit Himself asks for us.'

Almighty and eternal God, Who has vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and the Holy Spirit, and has given us forgiveness all sins, vouchsafe to send forth from heaven upon us your sevenfold Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.²

Day 3- Read Acts 2:4-13

- 1- The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. Read the following verses and note the miracle of Pentecost anticipated by those isolated instances

Luke 1:15 –

Luke 1:35 –

Luke 1:41 –

Luke 1:67 –

- 2- The disciples spoke “in other tongues” and the large crowd of Jews and convert to Judaism could understand and hear them in their own language. The Holy Spirit uses multiple languages to

² Day 1 of the novena to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit

share the Good News of God's love with all those present in Jerusalem and to gather them as the family of God. Can you recall an event from the Old Testament somewhat opposite to what happened on Pentecost? Read Genesis 11:1-9 and note how God caused confusion and scattering among the family of man by using diversity of languages to stop their wickedness.

Have you ever thought about the kind of language you use? Is it a language that brings love to others and gathers them? Does it cause confusion and division among people? Do the words you speak bring comfort and support or anxiety and discouragement? Are you allowing the Holy Spirit to speak a message of love through your words and actions?

- 3- We are called to an intimate friendship with the Holy Spirit, the "Sweet Guest of the Soul." Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit upon us at our baptism to be the craftsman of our holiness, and our consolation and strength as we await Christ's return. No one would wish to face a criminal trial alone and unaided; nor should we try to face the ordeal against sin without the help of Christ's advocate. Are you aware of the gentle presence of the Holy Spirit in your soul? Are you attentive and docile to His inspirations and movements?³

Go into your inner room and invite the Holy Spirit to fill you...Let Him transform you

The Holy Spirit wants to do so much for us when we call on him and invite Him in. You need not to fear to open wide the doors for the Holy Spirit to come in, to heal you, to set you free, to change you from a sinner to a saint... However, He can work within you with much power and transformation as much as you allow Him. Don't keep certain areas in your life off limits to Him. Let Him sanctify every aspect of your life. He knows you more than you know yourself and He wants to help you become the saint God is calling you to be. Ask Him to fill you with His gifts. Sometimes we are filled with fear from the Lord when we need to be filled with the gift of fear of the Lord.

The gift of Fear fills us with a sovereign respect for God, and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by sin. It is a fear that arises, not from the thought of hell, but from sentiments of reverence and filial submission to our heavenly Father. It is the fear that is the beginning of wisdom, detaching us from worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God. 'They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts, and in His sight will sanctify their souls.'

Come, O blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate my inmost heart, that I may set you, my Lord and God, before my face forever, help me to shun all things that can offend You, and make me worthy to appear before the pure eyes of Your Divine Majesty in heaven, where You live and reign in the unity of the ever-Blessed Trinity, God world without end. Amen.⁴

³ Regnum Christi Meditation on the Gospel of Saint John 16: 5-11

⁴ Day 2 of the novena to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit

Day 4 – Read Acts 2:14-21

- 1- Saint Peter's first sermon references the prophet Joel from the Old Testament. This passage was not the first in which we hear about the Holy Spirit in the Bible. Read the following scripture verses from the Old Testament and notice the Holy Spirit at work filling particular people to empower them for specific things.

Exodus 31:1-5 -

Judges 6:34 -

Isaiah 61:1-3 -

- 2- The Holy Spirit filled specific people in the Old Testament to prepare them for a specific mission. Not every one had access to the Holy Spirit. Yet, the prophet Joel envisioned an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon men and women, young and old, slaves and free. This prophesy was fulfilled with Pentecost and the descent of the Holy Spirit on all the baptized today. Do you relate to the Old Testament people by thinking that the Holy Spirit is reserved for few people with special mission and purpose excluding you? Do you think the Holy Spirit is not accessible to you? If you think so, read carefully and listen to the words of this Catechism Clip 684 **Through His grace, the Holy Spirit is the first to awaken faith in us and to communicate to us the new life, which is to "know the Father and the one whom he has sent, Jesus Christ."** Realize if you seek the Lord and your faith is awakened in your heart, be assured that the Holy Spirit is breathing His love through you. He wants to come to you to fill your emptiness. Just open up and call on Him. Come Holy Spirit!

Go into your inner room and invite the Holy Spirit to fill you...Let Him strengthen you

Are you facing something overwhelming? Maybe you are getting tired of this situation we are in. Do you feel the cross you are carrying is getting too heavy and you want to drop it? Are you facing a lot of obstacles as you try to live your vocation faithfully? Fear not. You are not alone. The Lord doesn't expect you to achieve your salvation alone and on your own. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the LORD of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6). He wants you to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit. Ask Him for the gift of fortitude.

By the gift of fortitude, the soul is strengthened against natural fear, and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy which move it to undertake without hesitancy the most arduous tasks, to face dangers, to trample under foot human respect, and to endure without complaint the slow martyrdom of even lifelong tribulation. 'He that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved.'

*Come, O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in time of trouble and adversity, sustain my efforts after holiness, strengthen my weakness, give me courage against all the assaults of my enemies, that I may never be overcome and separated from Thee, my God and greatest Good. Amen.*⁵

Day 5 - Read John 14:15-20

1- a- How do we prove our love to God based on verse 15?

b- Why do you think Christ insist on connecting our love for him with obeying his commands? Read 1 John 3:18 and 1 John 4:20

2- a- In the Old Testament, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. However, Jesus gives us a new commandment at the Last Supper. What is it? Read John 13:34, 15:12, 15:17.

b- Does this statement about a new commandment imply that Jesus came to abolish the law and the prophets? Read Matthew 5:17.

c- Our Lord challenges the disciples to go beyond the letter of the law and to live it in spirit in Matthew 5:19- 45. He doesn't just reaffirm that killing is unlawful but also personal anger and private slander are violation of the new commandment of love. What does He call us to be? Read Matthew 5:48 and 1 Peter 1:14-15.

3-a- The Lord knows that it will be difficult for us to keep his commandments and be holy without His grace. Who does He promise to send us? (Note the use of "who" not "what" and refer to the use of "He" and not "it" in John 14:17 & 26)

b- Why does Jesus use the term "another" as He promises to send us another advocate? Who is the first advocate? What will this other advocate do? Refer to the following word study in the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible and CCC 692.

The counselor Parakletos is an "advocate" or "helper". The word is used five times in John's writings always with reference to Jesus or the Holy Spirit. it is a legal term for an attorney or spokesman who defends the cause of the accused in a courtroom. Jesus uses it for a heavenly intercessor who is called to the side of God's children to offer strength and support. Jesus is a "Paraclete" because in heaven he pleads to the Father for believers still struggling on earth (1 Jn 2:1).The Spirit too, is a "Paraclete" because he is sent to strengthen the disciples and Jesus absence (Jn14:16), instruct them in the truth (Jn 14:26, 15:26) and defend them against the prosecutions of the devil (Jn 16:7-11) who is the accuser of the family of God (Rev 12:10).

⁵ Day 4 of the novena to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit

CCC 692 -When he proclaims and promises the coming of the Holy Spirit, Jesus calls him the "Paraclete," literally, "he who is called to one's side," *ad-vocatus*. "Paraclete" is commonly translated by "consoler," and Jesus is the first consoler. The Lord also called the Holy Spirit "the Spirit of truth."

c- Did the Holy Spirit accompany only the Apostles? Is He with us today? Does He dwell in you personally? Read John 14:16, Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 Cor 6:19.

Jesus promised to give His Church the Holy Spirit to be with us forever. The Holy Spirit also dwells within each one of us individually.

d- What does it mean to you that the Holy Spirit dwells in you? How does He help you? How often do you call on Him? Do you have a personal relationship with Him? Do you realize that He is here to help you in your journey as you try to live faithfully your vocation to holiness?

Go into your inner room and contemplate the intimate love God desires to share with you through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in you... listen to Jesus speaking to your heart

"Jesus: I was longing to complete my mission go back to the Father, because I was longing to come and live in your heart forever, in an intimacy that only the Spirit can give. And I was longing to go and sit at the Father's right hand, so that I could be there interceding for you all the time, so that you could finally ask the Father for all that you need and desire in my name. Now that I have repaired the breach through my sacrifice on the cross, the floodgates of grace are open and all I have and all the Father has is all yours."⁶

Open your heart to the Holy Spirit so He can fill you with God's love and experience the intimacy God is longing to have with you. Remember your identity - you are a beloved child - and let this love be the driving of all you do, say and think about.

Conclusion

Christian life is all about learning how to become the saint that God created you to be.⁷ The Holy Spirit wants to be your companion, your friend, your comforter, your counselor, your helper on your path to sanctity. Let Him into your heart. He sees your limitations and your hurts. He is here for you. His love knows no limits. He wants to be an important part of your life not just a mystery nor a word you utter when you make the sign of the cross. He wants to be on your lips always as you ask Him to come to fill you with His gifts of wisdom and of understanding, of counsel and of fortitude, of knowledge, of fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2) and of piety. Then you can bear His fruits of love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23). He is waiting for your invitation. Do you want to keep Him waiting?

⁶ The Better Part, by Fr John Bartunek LC

⁷ Good News Ministry by Terry Modica, gnm.org

Our Father has made a promise to His people through the prophet Ezekiel: ***“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.”*** (Ezekiel 36:26-27). God is faithful and kept His promise. What about you? Do you want to keep your baptismal promises? Do you want to have God’s spirit in you? Do you want to go deeper in your relationship with the Lord? The Holy Spirit is longing to come and fill you. Come Holy Spirit!

Let’s conclude with Saint Augustine’s prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too may be holy.

Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy.

Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy.

Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.

Amen.

My Resolution:

Chose a specific way to build a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Example:

- 1- Invoke the Holy Spirit throughout the day Come Holy Spirit!
- 2- Begin your day with Cardinal Mercier’s prayer in Day 1
- 3- Pray daily any prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Answer Key:

Day 1

1-The disciples were gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem devoting themselves to prayer together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brethren.

2- Pentecost, or the feast of weeks, was one of the three pilgrim feasts when all males appear before the Lord in Jerusalem. It took place fifty days after the Passover.

3- The Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters as mentioned in Genesis 1:2 – “and the earth was without form or shape, with darkness over the abyss and a **mighty wind** sweeping over the waters.

After the flood, we read about the Holy Spirit in the form of wind in Genesis 8:1 God remembered Noah and all the animals, wild and tame, that were with him in the ark. So God made a **wind** sweep over the earth, and the waters began to subside.

Day 2

1-Sirach 48:1 – Until like **fire** a prophet appeared, his words a flaming furnace

1 Kings 18:38 - Then the **fire** of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

2-Your own personal response

3-Acts 1:8 – But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 4:8 - Then Peter, filled with the holy Spirit, answered them

Acts 4:31 – As they prayed, the place where they were gathered shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness

Acts 9:17 – So Ananias went and entered the house; laying his hands on him, he said, “Saul, my brother, the Lord has sent me, Jesus who appeared to you on the way by which you came, that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 13:2 - While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

Acts 13:9 – But Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him.

Day 3

1-Luke 1:15 – He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother’s womb

Luke 1:35 – And the angel said to her in reply, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

Luke 1:41 – When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,

Luke 1:67 – Then Zechariah his father, filled with the holy Spirit, prophesied.

2-The story in Genesis 11:1-9 illustrates increasing human wickedness, shown here in the sinful pride that human beings take in their own achievements apart from God. Secondly, the story explains the diversity of languages among the peoples of the earth. (Commentary from Catholic New American Bible)

3- Your own personal response

Day 4

1- Exodus 31:1-5 – the Lord singled out Bezalel, filled Him with the Holy Spirit to acquire supernatural and artistic ability and great skills so he can put it to use in making the temple beautiful.

Judges 6:34 – The Holy Spirit filled Gideon so he can lead Israel and win the battle against huge Midianite army with only 300 men as the Lord instructed him.

Isaiah 61:1-3 – The prophet Isaiah was filled by the Holy Spirit and anointed to fulfill the mission assigned to him.

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the

prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and

provide for those who grieve in Zion to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

2- Your own personal response.

Day 5

1a- Our love and commitment to Christ is proved by keeping His commandments.

b- Actions speak louder than words, we can’t love God and not keeping His commandments in loving all people. We prove our love to God by works and not merely by words. As Saint John says “Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” (1 John 3:18). He also tells us we can’t claim loving God whom we cannot see when we cannot love a brother whom we see. (1 John 4:20 If anyone says, “I love God,” but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.)

2a- Jesus is instructing us to love others as he loved us; He loved us an unconditional sacrificial limitless love.

John 13:34 I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.

John 15:12 This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

John 15:17 This I command you: love one another.

b- No. He says in Matthew 5:17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.”

c- Jesus calls us to be perfect, just as our heavenly Father is perfect.

14 Like obedient children, do not act in compliance with the desires of your former ignorance but, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, for it is written, “Be holy because I [am] holy.”

3a- He does not leave us orphans and sends us another counselor.

b- The advocate refers to Jesus or the Holy Spirit

c- The ecclesial presence of the Holy Spirit within the Church as a whole is expressed in Jesus’ gift of the Spirit to be with us forever.

Ephesians 2:19-22 -So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

His personal presence dwelling within each one of us individually is referenced in Jesus words “he dwells with you and will be in you.”

1 Cor 6:19 - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

d- Your own personal response.