

Francis Chan refers to the HS as *The Forgotten God*.

Flatlands book 1884 reference – God lives beyond our limited 4 dimensions, He is able to be close to you without you even knowing His presence. He does this through His HS. Edwin Abbott

We can only experience God personally with spiritual senses

Take time to read these verses in the group -

- *Deuteronomy 29:4 ESV*
But to this day the Lord has not given you a heart to understand or eyes to see or ears to hear.
- *Romans 11:8 ESV*
as it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day."
- *John 8:47 ESV*
Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."
- *Ephesians 1:18 ESV*
having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
- *Psalms 34:8 ESV*
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

God is unseen but always there.

(more verses: Job 33:4; Isaiah 48:16; 1 Samuel 16:13; Genesis 41:38; Numbers 11:17; Judges 3:10; Judges 14:6; Nehemiah 9:30; Haggai 2:4–5)

The Holy Spirit makes a real-time relationship with God possible

(more verses: 1 Corinthians 2:10–11- the HS knows all of God's thoughts; Deuteronomy 30:6- circumcision of the heart; Deuteronomy 29:4–5)

Ask, Why is this truth so important? Without the HS, people are unable to love God.

Deuteronomy 29:4,5

- It is not our own intellect and understanding that leads us to God. It is only through His Spirit. Ears to hear, eyes to see and a heart to accept Him.

Ezekiel 36:26–28 ESV

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

A new heart – Ezekiel 36:26-28 – a heart of stone replaced with a heart of flesh.

Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?
Because the heart is deceitful above all things, God has to give us a new heart.

(more verses: Isaiah 7:14; 2 Timothy 1:14; John 16:7; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Matthew 16:16-17; John 16:13-15; 2 Corinthians 11:14)

1 Corinthians 3:16 - Hope, peace, rest, joy, love now within us.

What is the role of the Spirit in my life?

Without the Spirit, there is no understanding of God. It is other dimensional. We cannot conceive and understand without the work of the HS in our lives.

When our lives are marked by the fruit of the Spirit it is obvious that it is the Holy Spirit who is at work in our lives.

Galatians 5:22, 23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

The Spirit only speaks what is found and confirmed in Scripture. This is another reason why it is so important that we continue to seek God through His Word and not rely on our wisdom/experience. The false angel of light blinds us to the truth rather than illuminating truth.

The Word is living and active – when truth is revealed to you through His Word it is the Spirit.

Illumination – the HS reveals the truth of God, not just a moral code but the God of the universe.

Matthew 16:16, 17 – Peter understands Christ as the Messiah because the Spirit revealed it to him

John 16:13, 14 – the HS does the work of revealing God to your heart

2 Corinthians 11:14 – Satan works to deceive – known as the angel of light

The Holy Spirit always points to the life of Christ as your Savior

The HS is the one to first introduce you to the living Christ – He is the One who softens our hearts, speaks to us and allows us to see God

(more verses: John 16:8; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; John 14:25-26; Galatians 5:22-23)

“How do I feel more of the Spirit’s presence in my life?”

1. Make an effort to know God more

2. Don’t ignore conviction in your life, ignore your friends that don’t think you should feel convicted

3. Practice spiritual breathing - believe/repent/enjoy (inhale/exhale/pause- Selah)

4. Pray for hearts of stone to be softened.

Spend time taking prayer requests and allow time for participants to pray.