THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

John 14:26 *But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

The Spirit of God lives in everyone that turns from their sins and puts their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (Galatians 3). If you do not have the Spirit of God, then you do not belong to God and are not saved (Romans 8:9). The Spirit of God is called the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of holiness, and the Holy Spirit. He is also called the Counselor, Advocate, or Comforter (John 14:16). Jesus said that God is Spirit (John 4:24). God is the only eternal Spirit and He is not a ghost. The word “ghost” means an evil or angry spirit and refers to demons who are created and limited spirits. It is an incorrect translation to use the word “ghost” in reference to the eternal God.

The first man Adam was made in God’s image, but Jesus is the image of God (Colossians 1:15, 2 Corinthians 4:4). Adam was made with Jesus Christ living in him because he was in God’s image. When Adam sinned he was no longer in God’s image. We are created to have God’s Spirit living in us, but because of sin people have been separated from God and have other spirits living in them (Romans 6:23). People have become slaves to sin and can only be set free through Jesus Christ (Romans 6). When you receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, His Spirit comes and lives in you and you are in God’s image. We are God’s adopted children through faith in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son (1 John 3:1). God’s Spirit can be everywhere at once, and He lives in everyone that has faith in Jesus Christ. Angels are created spirits and are limited to one place at a time. Demons
are fallen angels. Demons are not supposed to live in people, but they rebelled against God and live in people who allow them to through sin (Jude 1:6). The Bible says that Christ is the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:17,18). Jesus is God, and the Spirit is God, but Jesus is how God shows Himself to us and speaks to us face to face (Titus 2:13, Romans 9:5). Jesus Christ is the image of God (Colossians 1:15). When you see Him, you see God (John 14:9).

Jesus said that unless you are born again of the Spirit of God, you cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven (John 3:3). There are people who claim to be Christians, but they have never been born again of the Spirit of God and have never experienced assurance of salvation. They are still living in their own power, and for their own glory. Real Christians are led by God’s Spirit, and have repented of falling short of the higher moral standard of God in Jesus Christ (Romans 8:14). Real Christians have the assurance of eternity in Heaven because their sins are forgiven on the account of Jesus Christ (1 John 5:13). Jesus showed that sin begins in the heart. Those who have repented of falling short of God’s perfect will, and who have received His perfect sacrifice once for all for sins, are no longer under law but are under grace. If you are led by His Spirit, you are not under law (Galatians 5:18). Law is an external control for those who are not led by God’s Spirit (1 Timothy 1:9). The Spirit of life has set us free from the law of sin and death so that we serve in the new way of the Holy Spirit and not under the written code (Romans 7:6). We are justified through faith in Jesus Christ and are kept safe by the Holy Spirit who lives in us. The Spirit of Christ sanctifies us and prepares us for eternity with Jesus Christ in Heaven (1 Corinthians 6:11). God’s Spirit living in you and leading you gives you the power to fulfill God’s purpose for your life. The Holy Spirit of God living inside those with faith in Jesus Christ is one of the distinctions of true Christianity from all other religions.
The supernatural gifts of the Spirit are given by God to testify that Jesus is the Messiah, and that both Jews and Gentiles receive salvation through Him (Acts 2). Tongues, miracles, and prophecies are not signs that someone has the Holy Spirit (Matthew 7:21-23). The evidence of the Holy Spirit living in someone is a changed life from selfishness and sin to love and obedience to God for the glory of Jesus Christ (Matthew 7:15-20). The fruits of the Spirit are the evidence of the Spirit living in someone, and include love, peace, kindness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22,23). The fruits of the Spirit are produced by the Spirit of God, and not by human efforts. The Bible warns us that in the last days the Antichrist will use false signs and wonders to deceive people (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10). There are demonic spirits being manifested in Antichrist religious movements that claim to be Christian. For more information, watch the video series by Andrew Strom about Kundalini spirits.

In Matt. 25:1-13 Jesus warned us to have oil in our lamps when He returns and not be unprepared. This refers to the necessity of receiving Him as Lord and Savior and being led by His Spirit. Don't put off your salvation another moment. When the door shuts, it shuts forever. If you miss the rapture, or if you die without Christ, there won't be another chance. Call out to Him in prayer right now and thank Him for His forgiveness through His sacrifice for your sins, and for giving you new life in Him through His Spirit. Ask Him to show you His will for you each day and to help you to do it. The following passage from Matthew 25 is a warning to unbelievers:

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however,
took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' " 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. "Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!' "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33