

# Breath

THE LIFE OF GOD IN US  
JOHN 20:22

A BETH MOORE STUDY

WITH ARTICLES BY MELISSA MOORE

Published by Living Proof Ministries © 2014

All rights reserved. No duplication permitted.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

# ONE

---

## SESSION ONE

BREATH - THE LIFE OF GOD IN US

Read Genesis 1:1-3 and 1:26-2:8.

- 1 The Bible opens with an eternal God building a frame for time.

*Four sides:*

The NET translates 4 words from the mouth of God 7 times in the Book of Isaiah (45:5; 45:6; 45:14; 45:18; 45:21; 45:22; 46:9):

I HAVE NO PEER.

2 The frame is built for the depiction of two primary entities: the Godhead and Humanity.

3 By the second verse of Scripture we learn the first fact about the Spirit:  
He moves.

*Reread Genesis 2:4-7. Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.*

4 The creation narrative repeatedly displays a curious method.

Substance without Form. (1:2)

Form without Animation. (1:9-10)

Animation without Image. (1:20-25)

Image without Equivalent. (2:18-20)

## CONCLUSION

The overarching message of what's missing is this: something's coming.

# Two

---

## SESSION TWO

BREATH - THE LIFE OF GOD IN US

---

1 God's Spirit is creative and original.

Filling me, I have creativity and originality within that I could never possess without Him.

---

THERE'S A VERY BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN, BEING  
CREATED BY GOD AND BEING INVADED BY GOD.

---

2

This is the question on the table before us:

*What would happen if I cooperated with God and let Him increasingly and intermittently unearth and infuse my creativity?*

See Exodus 31:4 - “to devise artistic designs”

“devise” – a verbal form

1. “weave (*ḥōšēb*);
2. value, esteem...
3. consider, think...
4. reckon”<sup>1</sup>

“*To join together, weave is postulated as the basic meaning of the root ḥšb... One may base this fundamental meaning on...ḥōšēb, used as a professional designation ‘weaver’ ...*”<sup>2</sup>

“artistic designs” - *maḥ<sup>a</sup>šābāh*

“A feminine noun meaning a thought, a purpose, a device, an intention. Largely poetic in its use, this Hebrew word means thought or the inventions that spring from such thoughts. It denotes the thoughts of the mind, either belonging to people (1 Chronicles 28:9; Psalms 94:11); or God (Jeremiah 29:11; Micah 4:12); the plans or intentions that arise from these thoughts (Proverbs 15:22; 19:21); the schemes of a wicked heart (Lamentations 3:60); skillful inventions coming from the mind of an artist (Exodus 31:4; 2 Chronicles 26:15).”<sup>3</sup>

Compare Jeremiah 29:11 NKJV

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you...

COLOSSIANS 1:29 ESV

“FOR THIS I TOIL, STRUGGLING WITH ALL HIS ENERGY  
THAT HE POWERFULLY WORKS WITH ME.”

3 The full expression of creativity requires energy.

See Exodus 35:34.

Creativity – Discipline = Unrealized Potential



4 The full expression of creativity requires rest.

Compare the placement of Exodus 31:12-18 and 35:1-3.

See Exodus 31:17 - “on the seventh day He rested (sabbat) and was refreshed

(*napaš*). [The word means] take breath, refresh oneself.”<sup>4</sup>

5

Nothing cheats our creativity of its sacredness and true spirituality like a pervasive feeling of unworthiness.

Compare Exodus 32 to Exodus 35.

## CONCLUSION

Conclude with Exodus 36:2...



# Three

---

## SESSION THREE

BREATH - THE LIFE OF GOD IN US

Read Judges 13:1-14 and compare Numbers 6:1-8.

See Judges 13:24-25.

1 God sets people apart for His Spirit before they are born.

Read Judges 14:1-14.

2 Grace risks being taken for granted.

3 The sacred not taken seriously turns into a game.

4 The anointing and the gifting of the Holy Spirit can be bafflingly misused.

*Two primary reasons:*

- God is astoundingly (if not troublingly) merciful and patient.
- God chose to makes us stewards and not just vessels.

### Read Judges 16:1-5.

5 Conceit can supply a counterfeit inflation of the Spirit.

See a phrase in 1 Timothy 3:6 and 6:4 and in 2 Timothy 3:4. ESV: puffed up with conceit /swollen with conceit. Derived from this lexical Greek word: *tuphóō* [also transliterated typhoo] from *túphos*, smoke. To swell or inflate with pride. In the pass. *tuphóomai*, to be lifted up with pride (1 Timothy 3:6; 6:4; 2 Timothy 3:4).<sup>1</sup>

“Pride is a breach of our consecration.” Charles Spurgeon

(Quote from *Spurgeon's Sermons* Volume 04:1858; #224, *Samson Conquered*, November 21, 1858)

## Read and narrate Judges 16:6-22.

Dr. D.I. Block: *For the first time in the Samson narrative a woman is named. But like many other elements in the Samson narrative, the name Delilah is a riddle. Etymologically, the most likely explanation relates the name to Arabic dalla, “to flirt”...<sup>2</sup>*

6 We keep playing the game because we think we're in control.

## Read Judges 16:28.

7 As long as we have breath, we can cry out to our God.

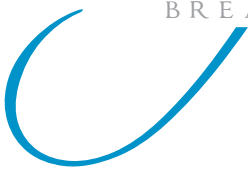
## CONCLUSION

Conclude with Judges 16:31.

# four

## SESSION FOUR

BREATH - THE LIFE OF GOD IN US



Read Ezekiel 37:1-14.

1

The beauty compared to the Genesis account is that the breath is not animating a book that had yet to live. It animates bodies that were dead.

Compare John 20:19-22.

---

YOU'VE GOT A SAVIOR THAT DOESN'T JUST  
GREET YOU, HE GIFTS YOU.

---

2 What was foretold for the “whole house of Israel” had its first deposit in a small lockdown.

3 A paradox takes place:  
the breath comes to the living from the One who'd been slain.

Compare Ezekiel 37:9

# five

---

## SESSION FIVE

BREATH - THE LIFE OF GOD IN US

### Read Acts 2:1-21.

In a segment of Scripture with enormous significance, we will draw our gaze toward the following words or phrases:

- 1 “the day of Pentecost” (V.1) – Greek “fiftieth.”

#### Two historical connections:

- On the Hebrew calendar, this was called the Feast of Weeks.

See [Deuteronomy 16:9-11](#). It was to be celebrated seven weeks and a day after the firstfruits of the grain harvest had been offered.

- The feast came to be associated with the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai.

See [Exodus 19:1-9](#).

## Acts 2:1-4

2 “a mighty rushing wind”

(V.2, compare John 3:8)

3 “divided tongues as of fire...on each one of them” (V.3) Compare V.8.

According to Joseph A. Fitzmeyer, “The tongues...symbolize the diversified power of speech that comes upon them.”<sup>1</sup>

Compare Acts 2:11.

---

YOU ARE GIFTED FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST.

---

## Acts 2:16-17

4 “I will pour out my Spirit” (V.17)

---

EZEKIEL 36:26-27 ESV

---

“I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT IN YOU AND MOVE YOU ...”

---

5 “your sons and your daughters shall prophesy”

(V.17, compare V.18)

*prophēteúō*; - To prophesy. (I) To foretell things to come

(Matthew 11:13; 15:7; Mark 7:6; 1 Peter 1:10; Jude 1:14); to declare truths through the inspiration of God’s Holy Spirit whether by prediction or otherwise (Luke 1:67; Acts 2:17, 18; 19:6; 21:9; 1 Corinthians 14:1, 3–5; Revelation 10:11; 11:3; Septuagint: 1 Kings 22:12, 18; Ezra 5:1; Jeremiah 11:21; Joel 2:28). The foretelling or foreannouncing may be, and often is, the responsibility of the prophet, but is not the essence of that office.

(II) To tell forth God’s message, hence the noun *prophētēs*, prophet, is the proclaimer, one who speaks out the counsel of God with the clearness, energy, and authority which spring from the consciousness of speaking in God’s name and having received a direct message from Him to deliver. Thus one may prophesy without being a prophet in the strict sense of the word. A *prophētēs*, both in the OT and NT, is not primarily one who foretells things to come, but who (having been taught of God) speaks out His will (Deuteronomy 18:18; Isaiah chapter 1; Jeremiah chapter 1; Ezekiel chapter 2; 1 Corinthians 14:3).<sup>2</sup>

6 “saved” (V.21)



# Six

---

## SESSION SIX

BREATH - THE LIFE OF GOD IN US

Read Revelation 1:9-20.

- 1 The Holy Spirit indwells and envelops.

Revelation 2:7

- 2 The Holy Spirit voices Christ to the church.

See 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

The adjective *theopneustos* (only here in the NT) is compounded of theos,

“God,” and the verb *pneo*, “breathe.”<sup>1</sup>

---

YOU AND I WILL NOT BE EQUIPPED TO DO WHAT  
GOD HAS CALLED US TO DO IF WE DO NOT HAVE  
A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH HIS WORD.

---

**Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-15.**

“the same *spirit* of faith” – Greek “pneuma.”

**3** The Holy Spirit fills the church with the Christ.

**James 2:26**

“For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works  
is dead.”

**See Luke 11:9-13.**

“Ask God to have His Spirit work so mightily in you that it would make for an  
amazing biography. A biography that speaks of a life so supernatural that no one  
would even consider giving you the glory. A biography that displays the power  
of the Spirit and lifts up the name of Jesus to the glory of God the Father.”<sup>2</sup>

---

THE BRIDE OF CHRIST WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS A CORPSE.

---

## Luke 10:17-21

- 4 The Holy Spirit exudes expressible joy.

---

WHAT IF WE LIVED LIKE EVERY SINGLE CHAPTER  
OF OUR LIFE MIGHT BE THE LAST ONE?

---

## Revelation 22:12-17

- 5 The Holy Spirit and the Bride invite.

---

REVELATION 22:17 ESV

“THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY, ‘COME.’  
AND LET THE ONE WHO HEARS SAY, ‘COME.’  
AND LET THE ONE WHO IS THIRSTY COME;  
LET THE ONE WHO DESIRES TAKE THE  
WATER OF LIFE WITHOUT PRICE.”

---