

What are we saying when we confess the Holy Spirit to be *the Lord*?

What is included when we confess the Holy Spirit to be *the Giver of life*?

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***proceeds from the Father and the Son***

The Nicene Creed was originally written in Greek by Christians in the Eastern church.

That creed confessed faith in *the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father*.

Christians in the Western church later added *from the Father and the Son*.

In Latin, the language used by the Western church, the phrase *and the Son* is *filioque*.

This became one of many difficulties between the Eastern and Western churches.

The creed we regularly confess says the Holy Spirit *proceeds from the Father and the Son*.

In John 14-16 Jesus teaches a lot about the Trinity.

Jesus teaches practical things about who the Spirit is and what the Spirit will do.

*I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he will be with you and will be in you. (John 14:16-17)*

What is each person of the Trinity doing in these verses?

Father?

Son?

Holy Spirit?

What two names are given to the Holy Spirit in these verses, and what does emphasize?

1)

2)

*When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning. (John 15:26-27)*

What is each person of the Trinity doing in these verses?

Father?

Son?

Holy Spirit?

Where do you see the Holy Spirit's proceeding from the Father in these verses?

Where do you see the Holy Spirit's proceeding from the Son in these verses?

*I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you. (John 16:12-15)*

What belongs to whom in these verses?

What do the following passages reveal about the person of the Holy Spirit?

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)*

*A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of the knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. (Isaiah 11:1-3)*

*Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.*  
(Philippians 1:18-19)

Which of the following statements do you like, and why? Why don't you like the others?

- a) The Spirit is part of God, just like the Son is part of God.
- b) Sometimes God the Father shows up as Jesus; other times he shows up as the Spirit.
- c) The Spirit is a God like the Father and the Son are Gods.
- d) The Spirit eternally goes out from the Father.
- e) The Father sends the Spirit, and the Son sends the Spirit.

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***in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified***

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;  
praise him above ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! (CW 334)*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (CW 273)*

Why is it important that we teach such songs to our children and sing the songs often?

*If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. (1 Peter 4:14)*

How does this passage fit with this part of the Nicene Creed?

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Final discussion:

How do we worship and glorify the Spirit in our public worship?

How do you worship and glorify the Spirit in your private life?