

Grieving the Spirit

Text: Ephesians 4:30

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Elkin, NC

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I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- A. The Greek term means to cause sorrow, distress, or sadness
- B. The Holy Spirit is a person; He has emotions; He can feel distress, pain, and sorrow
- C. God has a heart. The heart is the center of emotions and will. God's heart shows that He experiences feelings, such as we do.
 - 1) Grief (*Gen. 6:6*)
 - 2) Love (*John 3:16*)
 - 3) Joy (*Zeph. 3:17*)

II. HOW DOES ONE GRIEVE THE SPIRIT?

One grieves the Spirit by allowing sin into one's life

- A. Social sins such as those mentioned in *Eph. 4:31*
- B. Corrupt speech such as lying, slander and gossip
- C. Quenching the Spirit by resisting promptings and leadership
- D. Any form of unholy living

III. WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES?

- A. Grieving the Spirit, like any sin, will break fellowship with God
- B. Grieving the Spirit diminishes the sense of God's presence
- C. One loses one's sense of purity (*Ps. 51:100*)
- D. One loses peace and joy (*Ps. 51:12*)
- E. One loses spiritual strength
- F. Causes one to be carnal
- G. All of these can lead to a hard heart

IV. WHAT MUST ONE DO IF ONE GRIEVES THE SPIRIT?

- A. According to scripture, one must repent (*Eph. 4:31*)
- B. Remove anything that could lead to sin
- C. Confess the sin or sins (*1 John 1:9*)
- D. Accept God's forgiveness through His promise
- E. Dedicate yourself to a life of godly living