

“Carried Along”

2 Peter 1:16-21

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." 18 We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

19 We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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A Football Inspires Players – see it, hear it, feel it...you know the possibilities.
The Holy Spirit inspired the prophets and apostles - The Spirit inspires us today:

Isaiah 59:21

21 "As for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD. "My Spirit, who is on you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and forever," says the LORD.

2 Timothy 3:16

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

A Football speaks through the Game (not the scoreboard) – Not just how many times it crosses the goal line, but how many downs, and penalties, passes, running plays, turnovers and third down conversions it took to get there.

The Spirit Speaks through the Word. It speaks not just through the law of the OT, but the stories of Jesus in the gospels, the poems of the Psalms, the letters of Paul, and the revelation of John.

A Football in relation to the Team

Football is not a game w/o a football – it gives the game a single purpose.

A Football can't do much on its own.

A Football can't do much in the hands of only one person.

But, a Football that starts out in the hands of QB [leader] makes wonderful things happen.

A football does more in the hands of trained than amateurs.

C. The Holy Spirit in Relation to the Church (#4-9)

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| 4. Creates fellowship in the church | 2Co 13:14; Php 2:1 |
| 5. Unites the church | 1Co 12:13; Eph 4:4 |
| 6. Gives gifts to the church | Ro 12:6-8; Eph 4:11 |
| 7. Strengthens the church | Ac 4:30-33; 1Co 12:7-13; 14:1-33 |
| 8. Appoints leaders for the church | Ac 20:28; Eph 4:11 |
| 9. Works through Spirit-filled people | Ac 6:3, 5, 8; 8:6-12; 15:28, 32; cf. Nu 27:18; Jdg 6:34; 1Sa 16:13; Zec 4:6 |

Wait a minute pastor – didn't the scripture say that the apostles and prophets were carried along by the Spirit - because a football is carried by the team, and it's sounding a lot like you are saying that the spirit is a football. Then are we the team?

We are the not the team, you are not the players, you are a football. I am football.

So if we're a bunch of footballs, what's the game, how do we train...

5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. **Listen to him!**"

The Great Commission : Make Disciples

The Greatest Commandment – Love!

- 1) Acts of Devotion (study, prayer...)
- 2) Acts of Worship (song, sacrament, offering)
- 3) Acts of Compassion (mercy, serving the poor...)
- 4) Acts of Justice (making things right...)

Just like each player has to keep more than one thing on their mind – so do we.

Head up, low center of gravity, perform your assignment, and for goodness sake Pete know where the action is.

Sounds hard, but we are not alone – We are being carried along.

The Spirit is not only the air in the ball, but the air all around the ball...in the wind.

D. The Holy Spirit in Relation to Individual Believers

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| 1. Lives in every believer | Ro 8:11; 1Co 6:15-20; 2Co 3:3; Eph 1:13; Heb 6:4; 1Jn 3:24; 4:13 |
| 2. Convicts us of sin | Jn 16:7-11; Ac 2:37 |
| 3. Regenerates us | Jn 3:5-6; 14:17; 20:22; Ro 8:9; 2Co 3:6; Tit 3:5 |
| 4. Imparts God's love to us | Ro 5:5 |
| 5. Makes us realize God is our Father | Ro 8:14-16; Gal 4:6 |
| 6. Enables us to say "Jesus is Lord" | 1Co 12:3 |
| 7. Reveals Christ to us | Jn 15:26; 16:14-15; 1Co 2:10-11 |
| 8. Reveals God's truth to us | Ne 9:20; Jn 14:16-17, 26; 16:13-14; 1Co 2:9-16 |
| 9. Enables us to distinguish truth from error | 1Jn 4:1-3 |
| 10. Incorporates us into the church | 1Co 12:13 |
| 11. Is given to all who ask | Lk 11:13 |
| 12. Baptizes us into Christ | Mt 3:11; Mk 1:8; Lk 3:16; Jn 1:33; Ac 1:4-5; 11:16; 1Co 12:13 |
| 13. Fills us | Lk 1:15, 41, 67; Ac 2:4; 4:8, 31; 6:3-5; 7:55; 11:24; 13:9, 52; Eph 5:18 |
| 14. Gives us power and boldness to witness | Lk 1:15-17; 24:47-49; Ac 1:8; 4:31; 6:9-10; 19:6; Ro 9:1-3 |
| 15. Gives us special gifts | Mk 16:17-18; 1Co 1:7; 12:7-11; 1Pe 4:10-11 |
| 16. Gives visions and prophecy | Joel 2:28-29; Ac 2:17-18; 10:9-22; 1Co 14:1-5, 21-25 |
| 17. Develops his fruit in us | Ro 14:17; 1Co 13; Gal 5:22-23; 1Th 1:6 |
| 18. Enables us to live a holy life | Ps 51:10-12; 143:10; Eze 11:19-20; 37:26; Ro 8:4-10; 15:16; Gal 5:16-18, 25; Php 2:12-13; 2Th 2:13; 1Pe 1:2 |
| 19. Frees us from the power of sin | Ro 8:2; Eph 3:16 |
| 20. Enables us to fight Satan with the Word | Eph 6:17 |
| 21. Enables us to speak in difficult moments | Mt 10:17-20; Mk 13:11; Lk 12:11-12 |
| 22. Gives us comfort and encouragement | Jn 14:17-18, 26-27; Ac 9:31 |
| 23. Helps us to pray | Ac 4:23-24; Ro 8:26; Eph 6:18; Jude 20 |
| 24. Enables us to worship | Jn 4:23-24; Ac 10:46; Eph 5:18-19; Php 3:3 |
| 25. Is our pledge of final redemption | 2Co 1:22; 5:5; Eph 1:13-14 |
| 26. Makes us yearn for Christ's return | Ro 8:23; Rev 22:20 |
| 27. Gives life to our mortal bodies | Ro 8:11 |

But what can we do if we're just a ball?

We can choose our team, we can help call plays – we can even cause fumbles.

God makes us partners, but we must submit to his play calling.

We must trust our teammates.