

## LIFESTORY: GOD BREATHES

*"The Untamed God"*

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By Dennis Wallstrom

While God and religion are often viewed as constricting of life and oppressive, God the Holy Spirit presents himself in dynamic engagement with humanity and all creation. The Spirit is the immediately present God, bringing divine power, new possibilities, and a new way of being to our human existence.

### I. THE SPIRIT BROODS: He is in contact with the creation.

*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 (NIV)

### II. THE SPIRIT RUSHES: He is immediately present.

*When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him; and the spirit of the Lord rushed on him, and the ropes that were on his arms became like flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands. Then he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, reached down and took it, and with it he killed a thousand men.*

Judges 15:14-15 (NRSV)

*Then the spirit of the Lord will possess you, and you will be in a prophetic frenzy along with them and be turned into a different person. ... When they were going from there to Gibeah, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit of God possessed him, and he fell into a prophetic frenzy along with them.*

1 Samuel 10:6, 10 (NRSV)

### III. THE SPIRIT AWAKENS: He brings new possibilities.

*"Thus says the Lord God: 'Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.'"*

Ezekiel 37:9 (NRSV)

*I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."*

Ezekiel 37:14 (NRSV)

### IV. THE SPIRIT CREATES: As God, he makes all life new "in the Spirit."

*"But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you."*

Romans 8:9 (NRSV)