

**Junior High - Sample Questions
The Gift of the Holy Spirit - Fr Tadros Malaty**

(updated 7/11/2015)

1. What did the Alexandrians use to express the unity of the Holy Trinity in the divine grace or action?
2. St. Athanasius says the Father is called “light”, the Son is called “radiance”, and the Holy Spirit is “enlightenment”. Explain each illustration.
3. The Lord, in multiple accounts, promised His Holy Spirit to us. Use Biblical reference to explain the Divine gift of the Holy Spirit when Jesus met with the Samaritan woman.
4. The Lord, in multiple accounts, promised His Holy Spirit to us. Use Biblical verse and reference in which the Lord declared His promise publicly.
5. The Lord, in multiple accounts, promised His Holy Spirit to us. How did Jesus fulfill the promise on the day of the Pentecost?
6. Fr. Tadros states that the gift of the Pentecost was a grace given by God. Define “Grace” and explain how grace is given to us through the church as a new gift.
7. According to St. Cyril of Alexandria, through the incarnation of the Son and His redeeming deed for us, the Holy Spirit does three things for us. List the three ways the Holy Spirit works through us.
8. "When the Word of God became man, He received the Spirit from the Father as one of us." explain how Christ who is without sin can preserve our nature. How can we restore it again? Explain and provide biblical reference.
9. According to Fr. Tadros, why does man suffer from loneliness even if his outside circumstances seem excellent? What sort of “being” is Man in need of? Explain. Also, explain why God created woman and provide a biblical reference.
10. What did Christ promise his disciples concerning His departure? Explain your answer and provide biblical reference to support your answer.
11. The Divine “Gift of the Holy Spirit” has the power to uproot the feeling of loneliness from the hearts, souls, and minds of believers. How does it do this? Explain. How does the grace of the Holy Spirit help prepare us to receive the comforter?
12. Give two examples of saints who never felt lonely though they were alone and explain why.
13. Arthur W. Wainright says that in the book of Acts, there are eighteen references to the Spirit in which He is described in terms that suggest that He is a person. List 10 of these terms. (No verses required)
14. The early Church presented her experience with the Holy Trinity as the “Trinity of Love.” Why?
15. The grace and power of the Holy Scriptures concentrate on granting us communion with the Father through the Son. Inspiration of the Scripture by the Holy Spirit is essential in realizing this divine goal. What does the Holy Spirit do to help the writers?
16. Athenagros considered the prophets to be prophesying in a state of ecstasy as though the Spirit was breathing through them in the same way as a musician breathes through a pipe. Did the Alexandrians agree with this analogy? Explain. What did Origen suggest instead?
17. What did St. Cyril of Alexandria say the Holy Spirit’s function was for the writers of the Holy Scriptures? Explain.
18. The Alexandrians believed that the Scriptures were written through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Give four verses with references that indicate the writers are writing through the Holy Spirit.
19. What method did the Alexandrians adopt to interpret the Scripture? Explain the method.
20. Explain why in Psalm 18 it states that “God made darkness his hiding place”
21. The book tights in the proper tasks of a priest with the Holy Scriptures. What are the two tasks of

the priest and how should he perform the second task?

22. Athenagoras says, "The Son is in the Father, and the Father is in the Son, in oneness and power of the Spirit." What can we therefore say about the Holy Spirit?
23. St. Athanasius says, "We are strangers to God, and afar from Him." How does he say we are united to the Godhead?
24. St. Athanasius says, "God's will for us is that we receive the Holy Spirit." Why?
25. Fr. Tadros discusses the similarity between a man wanting to fly and a person without the power of the Holy Spirit. Explain the similarity. We must beseech God that He would remove the evil wind from our souls and bodies. What is that evil wind?
26. It is through the Father's grace that we are granted His own Spirit to dwell in us. What does the Spirit's grace grant us? Explain.
27. "It has been proved that the Holy Ghost is not only God, but also equal and similar to the Father." How?
28. The Holy Spirit is the Divine Fire who forms us into the likeness of God that we may enjoy participation in the divine life and attain His divine seal in our souls. What two things does the seal (Sphragis) declare for us? Provide two of the four verses with references in which St. Paul speaks about the divine seal.
29. The Holy Spirit seals us with His redeeming sign. Explain the effect the seal has on us and the consequence of not having it according to St. Didymus the Blind.
30. Why did the early fathers use "grace" to mean "baptism"?
31. The believer attains eight benefits through Baptism. List and explain each benefit as necessary.
32. The work by which we are made sons of the Highest (Ps. 82:6) is called grace, illumination, and washing. Explain each.
33. List and explain the two interpretations of being born of water.
34. The Holy Spirit is granted to us freely in Baptism but we have to hold fast to it devotedly. What three points did the early Church stress for us to follow? Explain each point in greater detail.
35. The Church fathers do not separate between adoption to God and the renewal of our nature for they are two aspects of the same grace. Explain this concept and provide biblical references to support your answer.
36. What did God promise Ezekiel? Provide a biblical reference.
37. The Holy Spirit renews us in Baptism through the unity with the Father and the Son. He fills us with His grace so that we cannot do anything unworthily of His love. What three things does [the Holy Spirit] do for us? Explain each.
38. By the Spirit, God fills man's nature with gladness, and crowns it with glory. What other three things does the Spirit do for us when we partake in Him?
39. What does St. Clement mean by the words, "The Instructor nurses man by the Spirit?"
40. What is the difference between practicing holiness in the Old Testament and now? Explain.
41. Explain the analogy Fr. Tadros gives between wind in a gloomy black night and man falling under the power of darkness. Explain.
42. When the soul is united and mingled with the Spirit Paraclete, by that unspeakable communion, and is permitted to become spirit itself in mixture with the Spirit, it is made what? List all ten attributes. Fr. Tadros uses the analogy of the stone at the bottom of the sea. Explain the analogy and how it relates.
43. In the beginning of their spiritual life, the Holy Spirit gives people joy when He sees their hearts becoming pure. Later, the Spirit gives them joy and sweetness, then He departs and leaves them. Why?
44. If a human soul lacks the Divine joy and tries to find a man skilled in spiritual healing, and attaches itself to him, what will the man do?
45. The aim of the Holy Spirit is to purify the soul and body completely and bring them back to their original state. How?

46. List and explain two things a man must do in order for the Holy Spirit to teach his mind how to purify his soul and body from carnal movements.
47. The Holy Spirit teaches a man to keep the body in order from head to foot. List six parts of our body we should maintain and provide examples of what the Holy Spirit teaches for each.
48. The warmth of the Holy Spirit grants us victory over the devil. Fr. Tadros uses the metaphor of “a man’s soul is like a bird.” Explain what he means by this and why.
49. The Holy Spirit works in the lives of the saints. What does St. Anthony the Great call the saints whose souls have departed from this world? What does the voice coming from God the Father say to them?
50. What are three ways that the Divine fire acts in the believers’ lives? Explain and provide biblical references where applicable.
51. The Alexandrians looked to prayers as a great task that needs the grace of the Holy Spirit which acts in the life of the Church and within every soul. By praying, what three things does the church (or soul) accomplish? Explain your answer.
52. Prayer is the action of the Holy Trinity in our life. What is the role of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in prayer according to Origen?
53. How do the saints cry out to God without a sound? Provide biblical references where applicable.
54. It’s easy for a person to praise God by his lips. What do the gifts of the spirit grant us? How can we praise Him? How can we enjoy the divine gift?
55. A man who lifts his mind highly to the Father of all will move our Lord to mercy by his labours. What will he be given? What will the Spirit of our Lord then teach him?
56. The Holy Spirit who raises the Church to heaven grants her joy in all aspects of her life. Provide 5 examples.
57. According to the early Coptic rite of Baptism, the newly baptized person drank milk mixed with honey. According to St. Clement of Alexandria, what is the significance of the honey?
58. Jesus called the Holy Spirit whom He sent the Paraclete, explain why.
59. How is the Holy Spirit a unique Teacher? Provide three reasons.
60. Fr. Tadros compares the soul to a winged bird. Explain how and why a winged bird relates to the divine fire.
61. The Christian mind and way of thinking is always in the heavenly frame. How do they behold the good things of eternity? Provide three ways.
62. Christians who are Christians in truth and efficacy are confident and glad at departure from the flesh. Why?
63. St. Macarius the Great says we must seek from the Lord that the inward man may be made partaker of the glory here and now, and that the soul may have fellowship in that sanctity of the Spirit. Why?
64. The Holy Spirit descended upon the Disciples and the Apostles of Christ to create the Christian Church, not as a social institution, but as the Body of Christ, who practices the Divine life. This unspeakable life is called sacramental. Why?
65. In Baptism, the Holy Spirit grants believers spiritual rebirth and transforms them into members of the sacramental Body of Christ. What does the Spirit grant us through this divine grace? Explain.
66. What is the only exception to the indispensability of the baptism of water? Provide a quote by St. Didymus the Blind to support your answer..
67. In Chrismation, the baptized persons receive the Holy Spirit dwelling in their souls to guide their lives. He grants them the unceasing sanctification of what six parts of their body? Why?
68. The Spirit rests not on all men, but on the holy and blessed. Who does the Spirit rest on? Who does He not dwell in? Why?
69. What is the Holy Spirit’s role in the Eucharist? How does the Holy Spirit guide the church?
70. The Holy Spirit dwells within us as His own temple. He desires to blot out our sins, therefore

- what does He grant us? Explain and provide biblical verse reference to support your answer.
71. Christians should be under strict discipline because Christ died for us. List the seven ways we receive remission of sins.
 72. What does a man need to discover, discern, and cast idols out of his own fire? Use the story of the women who lost the pieces of silver to support your answer.
 73. The Holy Spirit reveals that Jesus Christ is the true Physician of our bodies, souls, and spirits. What does St. James say should be done to those who are sick and what are the results? Paraphrasing is ok.
 74. The Copts believe in the Holy Spirit Who acts through the Anointing of the Sick to realize four blessings. What are they?
 75. The Coptic rite of marriage clarifies the work of the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of unity and communion by assuring three points. What are they?
 76. What is the special grace of the Holy Spirit that the ordained persons receive in the Sacrament of Priesthood?
 77. How did the Alexandrian Fathers look to the Christian life? Explain. Can this life be separated into parts? How does the Holy Spirit guide believers to attain closer relationship with God?
 78. List two examples of the action of the Holy Spirit in our daily life.
 79. Why did Metropolitan George Khedr refuse the expression "Church Renewal?" List two reasons.
 80. Bishop Gregorius said that he would accept the expression "Church Renewal." Provided 4 terms that we must distinguish to accept "Church Renewal"
 81. We can summarize the action of the Holy Spirit on behalf of the Church for her continuous renewal in three ways. What are they? Explain in detail.
 82. Fr. Tadros talks about the oil in the parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins. Explain what the oil resembles and how it affected the nature of the five wise virgins.
 83. Why were the five foolish virgins not allowed in the heavenly bride-chamber?
 84. There are two types of souls, one that seeks sanctification of the Spirit and other that is content with its own nature. Explain how one receives the oil while the other does not.
 85. Passions have almost become a part of our nature by long custom and propensity. How do we expel them? List seven things Fr. Tadros says must we do to attain the heavenly kingdom.
 86. What is the attitude of the soul that really loves God and Christ towards its own righteous acts?
 87. The face of a soul that loves God and Christ is said to be unveiled. Explain the statement.
 88. The church was and still is not interested in resisting the world. Provide one example of the Biblical concept of the work of the Holy Spirit in the world.