



*"You will receive power  
when the Holy Spirit  
has come upon you"*  
*Acts 1:8*

## **I Am Iron Man**

**Read:** John 20:19-23

The feast of Pentecost marks the day when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit into the world. I sometimes think the Holy Spirit is like the SIRI to my iPhone, the KIIT to my Knight Rider, or the Jarvis to my Iron Man suit. He is that constant companion, the voice of reason, who is there to help me.

Unfortunately, like Tony Stark (aka Iron Man), I don't always listen to that helpful voice. I am traveling at warp speed, heading down my own path, when I hear the Spirit (Jarvis) telling me, "Move over and let me take control for a minute", but I reply, "I'll get back to you as soon as possible. Right now I need to fly this suit into the wall."

However, if I am open to the Spirit's promptings, it makes my daily adventures much easier. When I approach life's walls, the Holy Spirit has a way of being more present, of calming me down, of gently but firmly guiding me to look at the silliness (potential stupidity) of my actions. He frequently helps me to sense imminent tragedy and the embarrassment following it. If I am attentive and listen, putting aside my Tony Stark-like ego, for a moment, I have good judgment and can apply the breaks with proper apologies.

In a manner of speaking, God gives each of us our own Iron Man suit complete with a personalized Jarvis. We activate the suit by making a commitment to follow Jesus, and then He sends us the Holy Spirit to govern our lives (boots up Jarvis). Of course we need to read the manual (the Bible), communicate with Jarvis (prayer), and spend time with our Avenger buddies (church fellowship), in order to keep things running smoothly. Then we can hear the Holy Spirit clearly and get on with our mission of saving the world, picking up the groceries, or just being the person God calls us to be.