



Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

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Gospel: The Spirit

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SCRIPTURE

John 16:5-14

⁵ but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?'
⁶ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. ⁷ But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because people do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

¹² "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.

ENGAGE

What comes to your mind when you hear the words "Holy Spirit"?

DISCUSS

1. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was referred to as the Spirit of God and in that time the Holy Spirit would come and go in the lives of people. Does it feel that way in your life today?
2. In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit comes into people's lives at salvation and dwells there forever. How comforting is that to know? Why?
3. Read Acts 3:19. We know that the Spirit convicts of sin. How can that be a time of refreshing?
4. One purpose of the spirit is to guide us. Can you share a time when the spirit has guided you personally? What did that do to your relationship with God?

5. The Spirit gives us strength to resist sin (the negative) and to do good (the positive). Which of these is more at work in your life? Why? How should it be?
6. Read Gal. 5:16, 22-23. What does this teach us about God's Spirit?

YOUR NEXT STEP

When is the last time you saw the Spirit's work in your life? Are you sure He is there? If you are a believer, He is in your life. Evaluate your life to make sure you know Christ and are experiencing the Holy Spirit in your life?

Out of the things we've discussed today, what would you like to see the Holy Spirit do in your life? How can you pursue the Spirit's work in your life?

CHILDREN'S TIME

1. Tell me who you believe the Holy Spirit is. (Explain that the Holy Spirit is God. Explain the Trinity as best as possible.)
2. What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit? (Explain that the Spirit convicts of sin, comforts & guides us.)
3. Share a time in your life (leader) when the Spirit has provided guidance in your life.

OTHER PASSAGES

James 1:13-14
Acts 3:19
2 Cor 5:21
John 3:17-18
2 Cor. 11:3
Romans 8:5-7