

Meet The Holy Spirit

1. Read John 16:5-15. Describe the mood of the disciples. Given the setting, why do you think Jesus refers to the Spirit as “theCounselor”?
2. Why is it a good thing that Jesus is leaving?
3. What specific conviction does the Spirit bring to those who hear the message of Christ? Why is it important for the Spirit to convince the world that their “prince” is already condemned?
4. From verses 12 and 13, describe the Spirit’s ministry to Jesus’ followers.
5. What insight can you gain from verses 14 and 15 about the Spirit’s relationship to Jesus and to the Father?
6. Read Acts 2. The Spirit invades. What does that mean? What happens in verses 1-4? What is the crowd’s reaction?
7. What does it mean that God poured out His Spirit on all people?
8. What’s new about Peter? What does he promise to those who repent and believe in Jesus?
9. What were the activities and attitudes of the early Christians?
10. How can you be more open to the Holy Spirit and what are your expectations as you pursue a deeper relationship with Him?

Lesson 2 Listen, The Holy Spirit Speaks

1. Read I Corinthians 2. Describe the content of Paul's message. Describe the spirit of Paul as God's messenger.
2. What is the result of following purely human wisdom? What results from following God's wisdom (vs 1-8)?
3. According to verses 9-10, what methods fail to uncover the good things that God has prepared for us? How can we discover them?
4. How do verses 11 and 12 convince you that the Holy Spirit is God?
5. Can you think of a time when you were reading God's Word and you suddenly understood it and realized what it was say just to you?
6. From verse 14, why would a person reject the message of Jesus and the teaching of the Bible?
7. How do you have the "mind of Christ"?
8. The Holy Spirit also renews us. Read John 3:1-8. What does renew mean? Describe Nicodemus. What was his view of Jesus? What did born again mean to him?
9. Describe the two births in your own words.
10. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the new birth and how is it like the blowing of the wind?
11. How can your understanding of the Spirit's work affect how you talk to others about Jesus?
12. Can you tell the story of how the Spirit worked in your life to bring you to Christ? What are the signs that a person has the spiritual life Jesus describes in this passage? Are they obvious in your life?

Lesson 3

The Spirit Gives Power

1. Read Acts 6:1-15. What would it be like to be around Stephen? How come the Holy Spirit could work His way in Stephen's life?
2. What was the argument between Stephen and the member of the Synagogue? How does the Spirit help Stephen stand against this opposition?
3. In what situation might you ask for the Spirit's help or strength? What risk do you take when you speak with the Spirit's power?
4. Read Acts 7:54-60. How does the Spirit empower Stephen to face his death?
5. What must happen in your spiritual life so that you can be like a "Stephen?"
6. The Holy Spirit gives guidance in a powerful way. Read Acts 16:1-10. How does Paul demonstrate obedience? How do you think the Spirit told Paul not to go to those places?
7. What principles can you draw from Paul's experience that will help you know when the Spirit is directing you? What steps will you follow as you seek the Spirit's direction?
8. The Holy Spirit also liberates us. Read Romans 8:1-27. Is there something in your life that you need to be set free from? What's holding you back?
9. How do the verses 15-17 help you relate more positively to the Father?
10. What promises in verses 18-25 help you face times of difficulty or pain with greater joy and confidence?
11. In what ways does the Spirit minister to us in our weakness (v 26-27)? How will this make a difference in your life?

Lesson 4 The Holy Spirit Equips, Transforms and Influences

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12. What does the passage tell you about how gifts and the Spirit work together?
2. Describe several of the spiritual gifts. Why is it important for Paul to talk about the unity of Christ's body at the same time that he talks about spiritual gifts?
3. How are spiritual gift and natural abilities different?
4. Why does Paul emphasize that it is God who has placed the members of the body together as he desires? How should that affect how you relate to each person in the body?
5. Read Galatians 5:13-26. When do you personally sense the struggle between your sinful nature and the Spirit most strongly?
6. What do you think Paul means when he says in verse 26, "Those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God"?
7. Why does Paul refer to the qualities in verses 22-26 as the "fruit" of the Spirit?
8. If you have crucified the sinful nature, why then do you struggle with its power? What does it mean to "keep in step with the Spirit"?
9. Read Ephesians 5:15-21. How can you be careful how you live? Explain.
10. Being filled means being controlled. How will a person who is filled with the Spirit act? What is required of a person in order to be filled with the Spirit? What will your relationship be like with the Lord when you are filled with the Spirit? With others?
11. From these verses--why are you told to submit to one another?
12. How can you tell if you are filled with the Spirit? Is that a goal of yours?