

HOLY SPIRIT DISCUSSION GUIDE

Jesus told his followers that the Father would be sending the Holy Spirit and that it would be better for Jesus to go away so the Spirit could come. In this session, we'll explore what Jesus meant and how we can embrace the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

AGENDA OVERVIEW

- Connect | 30 Minutes
- Learn and Apply | 110 Minutes
 - Verse and Prayer Practice | 20 Minutes
 - Reflection Exercises | 90 Minutes
- Pray | 30 Minutes
- Looking Ahead | 10 Minutes

CONNECT

Spend the first 30 minutes connecting, and use these [Icebreaker Questions](#) if needed.

LEARN AND APPLY

VERSE REVIEW

“The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” (John 14:26)

PRAYER PRACTICE

Discuss the prayer practice(s) you focused on, and share what you experienced.

REFLECTION EXERCISES

1. In John 16:7, Jesus said, “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.” What observations do you have about Jesus’s words?
2. Have you ever thought about the reality that Jesus said it is better for us to have the Holy Spirit than be physically present with us? How does that make sense? Would it be better if Jesus were here in person?
3. Discuss your takeaways from *The Ministry of the Holy Spirit* reading plan.



4. Discuss answers to the questions from *Forgotten God*:
 - a. Chapter 1: “The church is not empowered to live differently from any other gathering of people without the Holy Spirit. But when believers live in the power of the Spirit, the evidence in their lives is supernatural” (Chan, 17). Who do you know whose life is a powerful display of the Holy Spirit’s presence and activity? What is evident in their lives? How do they live differently?
 - b. Chapter 2: If you are motivated by a fear that God won’t act when you ask him to, what does that say about your view of God?
 - c. Chapter 3: God gave us the Holy Spirit so that we might change the world through his power. How do you think the church would look if it depended more on the Holy Spirit?
 - d. Chapter 4: Is part of you nervous about how the Spirit may want to work in your life? How may he want you to change?
 - e. Chapter 5: When was the last time you sat quietly with nothing at all to distract you? What was that like?
 - f. Chapter 6: Which is more frightening to you, giving up everything you own or going through life on your own without the Holy Spirit? Why do you say that?
 - g. Chapter 7: What practical steps can you take right now to pursue the Spirit and live in dependence on him?
5. Discuss your book reflection.
6. Discuss your most significant insight from this session and how you will apply it to your life.

PRAY

In an effort to be more aware of the Holy Spirit working in our lives, we’re going to spend some time praying in silence about various things. For the next 10 minutes, pray as you are led when it comes to these categories:

- Do you need to confess and repent of anything?
- What do you hope to apply from this session?
- Is there something in your family life that needs prayer?
- Is there something burdening you with what’s happening in the world?

LOOKING AHEAD

Review the Assignment Guide for the next session.

