

## Who is the Holy Spirit?

Question: When you think of the Holy Spirit, what comes to mind?

Some people may think of the Holy Spirit as a mystical force or an impersonal being, but let's take a look at what the Bible says about the Holy Spirit and His role in our lives.

Note: There are quite a few scriptures, but almost all of them are in John. Have most people turn to John, assign people in a circle to read the scripture, and discuss what the scripture is showing us about the Holy Spirit. Then have a few people turn to the other scriptures when needed.

The Holy Spirit:

- John 7:38-39 Flows in and through us to change us and bless others
- John 14:16, 23 Is with us forever and makes a home in us in Christ's place
  - Question: How does the Holy Spirit being in the room with you at all times change the things that you would do in your free time or behind closed doors?
- John 14:25-26 Teaches us all things and brings to remembrance all that Jesus has taught us
- John 15:4, 16:7 Abides (lives/dwells) with us in place of Jesus on the Earth
  - Abiding with Jesus through the Holy Spirit helps us grow good "fruit" in our lives Galatians 5:22
- John 15:26-27 Bears witness to Jesus (shows Jesus is who he says he is) to us and those around us
- John 16:8-11 Convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment
  - Conviction is the Holy Spirit making us aware that we are hurting ourselves, God, and other people by choosing to live in sin.
  - Question: Why do you think the Holy Spirit convicts us about sin?
    - Conviction is a gift that the Holy Spirit gives us that reminds us that He cares about us and doesn't want to see us do things that would hurt us or our relationship with him.
  - Question: Can you share an example of a time that you had a thought that you should do something or not do something that you think may have been the Holy Spirit? Did you listen to the Holy Spirit in that moment?
- Guides us into all truth, speaks what He hears from the Father and Son, and declares what is yet to come John 16:13
- John 16:14 Glorifies Jesus and declares to us what belongs to him
  - Spiritual blessings, gifts, power, wisdom, etc.
- John 20:22, Ephesians 1:13-14 Breathes new life into us so we are born again spiritually and becomes the seal and proof of our salvation
- Galatians 5:16 Walks with us so we won't continue to live in sin but live a new spiritual life.
  - Question: What is one area of your life that you would like the Holy Spirit's help to stop living in sin?
- Acts 1:8 Empowers us



- The Holy Spirit empowers us to show a better picture of Jesus to the world around us.
- We'll be talking more this weekend at Fall Retreat about how the Holy Spirit empowers us
- 2 Corinthians 13:14 Has fellowship with us and relates to us through His presence and voice in our lives.
  - We personally relate to Jesus and the Father through the Holy Spirit in our life. We do this through prayer, listening for His voice, and allowing the Holy Spirit to show us truth in the Bible.
  - Question: What makes it hard for you to personally relate to the Holy Spirit in your life?
- 1 Corinthians 6:19 He Dwells within us like he used to in the Temple
  - In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was only present in the Holy of Holies, which could only be accessed by the High Priest, because of the presence of sin on the Earth. But in Matthew 27:50-51, the veil that separated the Holy of Holies is torn because of Jesus' death, demonstrating that the Holy Spirit could now dwell with us on the Earth and within us (1 Corinthians 6:19)
  - What was once available to only one person once a year (the presence of God and personal and close relationship), is now available to anyone who chooses to follow Jesus! This is amazing!
  - Question: What does the Holy Spirit living in believers say to you about God's desire for relationship with us?
    - He desires to be intimately close with us and live every day life with us.
  - Question: How do you think sin affects our relationship with the Holy Spirit and our role as a temple of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit's presence in our life is God's gift of Himself to us. If we ask for His help, the Holy Spirit will help us to see a better picture of Jesus and the Father as we grow in relationship with Him.

Question: How does all of this change the way that you relate to the Holy Spirit in your life?

Take some time to ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you about anything He wants to speak to you about.

Note: During the prayer time, it could be a good time to ask the Holy Spirit if He wants to speak anything to individuals or to your group as a whole. Feel free to operate in gifts of the Holy Spirit as He leads you.

Note: Feel free to add or subtract to this resource and use it however it helps you. Pray over this and ask God what He wants you to speak to your group about and which questions or scriptures will be helpful!

