



Doctrine Discussion Guide

Week 6 | Holy Spirit

When you are in need, who or what do you turn to for help? Why there?

Read the CF Statement of Belief

We believe God has given every believer the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of our salvation. The Holy Spirit enables us to live a holy life and uses us to accomplish his purposes in the world by gifting us to serve His church.

Theological Truths

His nature

- He is God
- Co-Creator of the world
- Creator of mankind
- Inspired the Bible
- A person, not an impersonal force

His work

- Helper
- Convicts of sin before salvation
- Regenerates and baptized us at moment of salvation
- Seals us after salvation
- Empowers us for his service

Discussion Question

What has been your journey, background, and understanding of the Holy Spirit?

Passages for Study

John 14 – 17 is called the Upper Room Discourse, and are some of Jesus's last teachings with his disciples before he was crucified. He says much about the Holy Spirit in this discourse. Read these passages and then discuss what you learn using the questions below.

John 14:15-17

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

John 16:7-15

7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. 12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

- List the various works of the Holy Spirit that we see in these passages. (You may want to write them on a board or larger piece of paper or share them from a computer to a TV.)
- What is true about the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives? In what ways is he a helper?
- What difference does it make knowing that the Holy Spirit indwells all believers? (Note: Before the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit only indwelt a few of those who followed God at specific times, for specific purposes)
- Why is the work the Spirit does to convict of sin so important? Why is it important to understand that conviction comes from the Spirit and not from us?
- How does he help in our understanding of God's truth?

Acts 1:6-8

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

- What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit indwelling us?
- How does it change your perspective knowing that he empowers every believer to be his witness?

Read the Big Idea:

We want you to understand and use the power of the Holy Spirit in your life.

- How has your view of the Holy Spirit changed as a result of this teaching?
- The Spirit indwells you, teaches you, convicts you of sin, and empowers you

for his service each day. How should your belief in these truths change your outlook and way of life?

- What does it practically look like to live a Spirit-empowered life?