

We Have the Holy Spirit Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Did you have a favorite superhero or other fictional character as a child? Explain.
2. What's your ideal weather?

Read the following passage: Acts 1:3-8; 2:1-4, 14-18.

Jesus gave his disciples what had to feel like an overwhelming mission: "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." How would they accomplish this mission? Jesus told them in the same breath! "...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you..." God has given us his Holy Spirit so that we might fulfill the mission he has given to us. The Holy Spirit manifests the presence of God, connects us to the right people, and empowers us to confront darkness. The Holy Spirit is crucial for every part of the mission.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. What did Paul consider to be his role and what did he consider to be God's role? How can we apply this to our own lives?
2. Are you confident that God will work in the lives of others as you take steps to engage them with the life of Jesus? Explain. What factors have helped or hurt your confidence? Many people rejected Paul's message, sometimes violently. Why do you think he was able to persevere in the face of many "failures"?
3. What would you consider to be a proper view of our own gifts and talents when it comes their importance in accomplishing the mission God has given to us?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 and Romans 12:3-8. Do you see any of these gifts at work in your life? Are you praying for any of these gifts to be active in your life?
5. In the early church, the Holy Spirit often made unexpected connections between individuals or groups of people (see, for example, Acts 10:19-23). What are some of the advantages of building relationships with people who differ from us in significant ways? Can you think of any friendships in your life that were somewhat unexpected? Explain.
6. Paul describes his calling to King Agrippa in Acts 26:15-18. What might it look like for us to "turn [people] from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God"?
7. What are some ways you would like to see the Holy Spirit work through your life? What are some steps you can take to cooperate with what God is doing in you and

through you?

Pray