

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of August 1-7, 2021

## “HOLY SPIRIT: GOD WITH US AND IN US”

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### GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

How are you at saying “goodbye”? Is it harder for you to be the one leaving or the one left behind? Share your thoughts.

### GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Check out the different ways that Jesus told his disciples about his departure (cf. John 13:33,36; John 14:5,18-19,28; John 16:4-7,16-18). What reason(s) do you think made it hard for the disciples to grasp or accept this? Why was it important that Jesus leave?
2. “It is better to have the Holy Spirit in us than to have Jesus next to us” (cf. John 16:7). What do you think this really means?
3. The Holy Spirit is called ‘paraklete’ in John 14:16, which literally means ‘one called alongside’. There is no exact English equivalent so various translations use the words ‘Helper,’ ‘Counsellor,’ ‘Advocate,’ ‘Comforter,’ etc. Spend some time discussing how the Holy Spirit living in us does all these things for us by thinking about what Jesus did for his disciples when he was physically with them. For example compare Luke 22:31-32 and Romans 8:26.
4. When Jesus said he will send “another” Helper, who then is the first helper? Why is it important that we see the Holy Spirit as a person (in fact, the third person of the Trinity) and not as something impersonal like a “force”?
5. Jesus also tells us that the Holy Spirit will be with the believer forever. What are the life implications of this? (Check out 1 Samuel 16:13-14, 1 Corinthians 16:19-20, 2 Corinthians 1:22, Ephesians 1:14.)

6. How can one practice the presence of the Holy Spirit? In what way can we balance the extremes of emotionalism and intellectualism when it comes to our experience of the Holy Spirit?

### 7. [NEXT STEPS]

*We never have to live our lives going around blindly or by trial and error because we have the Holy Spirit.*

- I want to know the Holy Spirit more.
- I am the Temple of the Holy Spirit, hence, I will glorify God with my body.
- I will cultivate a listening ear to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

*Don't forget to:*

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

### CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for sensitivity to the voice of the Holy Spirit, to be alert and to depend on him.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

### BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

August 2. John 14:16-27

August 3. 2 Corinthians 1:12-22

August 4. Galatians 5:13-18

August 5. Ephesians 4:25-32

August 6. John 16:1-15

August 7. 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

August 8. Romans 8:5-17