

# **40 Days of Power**



**Knowing and Experiencing  
God's Power  
in Your Life**

## God's Power For God's Purposes

In the *Purpose Driven Life* series, we learned that the purpose of life is to live for God's purposes. Hopefully, we have made a personal commitment to do that.

Now we want to focus on another aspect of fulfilling your purpose: power. Think of any device ever invented. Ask yourself what its purpose is. For instance, think of a chain saw or an electric mixer. Just by looking at it you can see it has a purpose: cutting things up or mixing things up. But how would it ever fulfill that purpose without power?

Now consider another picture. A policeman is directing traffic. He steps in front of an SUV that is barreling down the highway. He raises his hand. The SUV driver sees him and stands on the brakes. Why? The driver sees the officer's purpose, but he also respects his power. Certainly the policeman doesn't have the physical power to stop that two ton SUV, but he does have delegated authority, power from the State, and he represents that power when he holds up his hand to stop traffic. He knows that, and every driver better know that.

Those two ideas, *ability* and *authority*, both illustrate the power God provides for us. God has designed us for a purpose, but he also has provided, and does provide, the power and authority we need to fulfill his purpose.

In this series we're going to see what the Bible says about the power of God and how his power energizes us for his purposes. Catch that idea: *his Power for his Purposes*. It's not a matter of tapping into *cosmic energy* (*The Force*, as Star Wars called it). It is three things:

- Letting God's Spirit *fill* You,
- Letting God's Spirit *control* you, and
- Letting God's Spirit *direct* you.

We'll look at six aspects of the Spirit-empowered life:

- Who Is The Holy Spirit?
- The Holy Spirit: The Power of *Salvation*
- The Holy Spirit: The Power of *Discipleship*
- The Holy Spirit: The Power of *Devotion*
- The Holy Spirit: The Power of *Ministry*
- The Holy Spirit: The Power of *Mission*

### Power Plan

- Five days each week there will be scripture readings and some questions for you to complete.
- Each week there will be discussion questions to use in a small group meeting.
- Your pastor may choose to preach a message that emphasizes and crystallizes what we are learning and experiencing in our personal time and small groups.

You won't want to miss this series. During our time of emphasis on God's Spirit and the power He provides, we can experience God as never before.

## **Successful Small Group Study**

One of the most important benefits of a series like Forty Days of Power is that it encourages everyone involved to actually get into the Word and spend some time with God each day. That is all the more important in this series because the small groups will be based on group discussion of the previous week's readings.

With that in mind, here are some great tips for small group success:

### **Five Important Elements for a Successful Small Group Experience**

– from InterVarsity

1. Come to the study prepared. Careful preparation will greatly enrich your time in group discussion.
2. Be willing to join in the discussion. The leader of the group will not be lecturing but will encourage people to discuss what they have learned in the passage. Plan to share what God has taught you in your individual study.
3. Stick to the passage being studied. Base your answers on the verses being discussed rather than on outside authorities such as commentaries or your favorite author or speaker.
4. Try to be sensitive to the other members of the group. Listen attentively when they speak, and be affirming whenever you can. This will encourage more hesitant members of the group to participate.
5. Be careful not to dominate the discussion. By all means participate. But allow others to have equal time.

## **Leading A Small Group Successfully**

– from InterVarsity

Leading a Bible discussion—especially for the first time—can make you feel both nervous and excited. If you are nervous, realize that you are in good company. Many biblical leaders, such as Moses, Joshua, and the apostle Paul, felt nervous and inadequate to lead others (see, for example, 1 Corinthians 2:3). Yet God’s grace was sufficient for them, just as it will be for you.

Some excitement is also natural. Your leadership is a gift to the others in the group. Keep in mind, however, that other group members also share responsibility for the group. Your role is simply to stimulate discussion by asking questions and encouraging people to respond. The suggestions listed below can help you to be an effective leader.

### **Preparing to Lead**

1. Ask God to help you understand and apply the passage to your own life. Unless that happens, you will not be prepared to lead others.
2. Carefully work through each question in the study guide. Meditate and reflect on the passage as you formulate your answers.
3. Pray for the various members of the group. Ask God to use these studies to make you more open and alert to the Spirit’s work.
4. Before the first meeting, make sure each person has a study guide. Encourage them to prepare beforehand for each study.

### **Leading the Study**

1. Begin the study on time. If people realize that the study begins on schedule, they will work harder to arrive on time.
2. At the beginning of your first time together, explain that these studies are designed to be discussions, not lectures. Encourage everyone to participate, but realize that some may be hesitant to speak during the first few sessions.
3. Read the Scripture passage aloud. You may choose to do this yourself, or you might ask for volunteers.
4. The questions in the guide are designed to be used just as they are written. If you wish, you may simply read each one aloud to the group. Or you may prefer to express them in your own words. Unnecessary rewording of the questions, however, is not recommended.
5. Don’t be afraid of silence. People in the group may need time to think before responding.

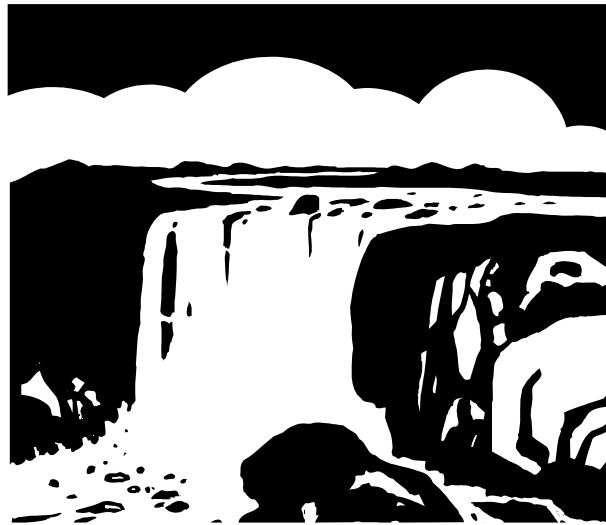
6. Avoid answering your own questions. If necessary, rephrase a question until it is clearly understood. Even an eager group will quickly become passive and silent if they think the leader will do most of the talking.
7. Encourage more than one answer to each question. Ask, “What do the rest of you think?” or “Anyone else?” until several people have had a chance to respond.
8. Try to be affirming whenever possible. Let people know you appreciate their insights into the passage.
9. Never reject an answer. If it is clearly wrong, ask, “Which verse led you to that conclusion?” Or let the group handle the problem by asking them what they think about the question.
10. Avoid going off on tangents. If people wander off course, gently bring them back to the passage being considered.
11. Conclude your time together with prayer. Pray concerning the lessons you learned in that week’s readings. Pray for one another’s special needs. Pray for needs in the church or the world.
12. End on time. This will be easier if you control the pace of the discussion by not spending too much time on some questions or too little on others.

One last point for you to consider as a leader. You are not alone. If any issue comes up that you don’t know how to answer; if anything happens that you don’t know how to handle, contact the pastor or one of the elders of your church. They are there to help you.

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*This series, Forty Days of Power, was created  
By Mike and Diane Constantine  
for Shepherd Gate Church*

# **Week One**



**God's Power for God's Purpose:  
Who is the Holy Spirit?  
How Can I Experience Him?**

## **Day One**

### **The Holy Spirit Is a Person**

“It is of the highest practical importance that we decide whether the Holy Spirit is a power that we in our weakness and ignorance are somehow to get hold of and use, or whether the Holy Spirit is a personal being infinitely wise, infinitely holy, infinitely tender, who is to get hold of and use us.” – R.A. Torrey, What The Bible Teaches

"Spell this out in capital letters: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON. He is not enthusiasm. He is not courage. He is not energy. He is not the personification of all good qualities, like Jack Frost is the personification of cold weather. Actually, the Holy Spirit is not the personification of anything..... He has individuality. He is one being and not another. He has will and intelligence. He has hearing. He has knowledge and sympathy and ability to love and see and think. He can hear, speak, desire, grieve and rejoice. He is a Person." – A. W. Tozer, The Counselor

The Holy Spirit: He, or It?

1. Jesus told the Disciples about the Holy Spirit's coming. How did Jesus refer to the Holy Spirit? What pronouns are used for the Holy Spirit?

- John 15:26-
- John 16:7-
- John 16:8-
- John 16:13-
- John 16:14-

2. When you introduce a friend, you mention some of his personal characteristics. The Bible mentions some of the Holy Spirit's personal characteristics so we can know Him as a person. What can you learn about the Holy Spirit in the these verses?

- 1 Cor. 2: 10,11
- Rom. 15:30-
- Eph. 4:30-

3. The Bible mentions things the Holy Spirit does that other persons do. What are some of the things we can see the Holy Spirit doing?

- Rev. 2:7-
- Gal. 4:6-
- Rom. 8:26-

**Think and Pray**

1. Is it hard for you to think of the Holy Spirit as a person? Why?

2. What scripture from today's readings especially spoke to you?



**Day Two**  
**The Holy Spirit Is God**

“Certain cult groups teach that the Holy Spirit is not God, that He is only a force or an emanation from God, like warmth emanates from the sun. These teachings are ancient errors, and contradict the Bible.

There are many verses that affirm this fact. Here are just a few verses that tell us that the Holy Spirit has the characteristics of God. What characteristic of God is attributed to the Holy Spirit in each of these verses?

- Heb. 9:14- God is \_\_\_\_\_ and the Holy Spirit is also \_\_\_\_\_.
- Psa. 139: 7-10- God is \_\_\_\_\_ and the Holy Spirit is also \_\_\_\_\_.
- Luke 4:14- God has \_\_\_\_\_ and the Holy Spirit also has \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1 Cor. 2:10-11- What God \_\_\_\_\_ and the Holy Spirit also \_\_\_\_\_.

**Think and Pray**

1. Why do you think it is important that you know the Holy Spirit is God?

2. Think about the Holy Spirit's being God and the attributes of God that he has. Which one of these attributes means the most to you at this time in your life?

### **Day Three**

#### **Names and Titles for the Holy Spirit**

How many names or titles can one person have? You might have many, and each one describes something about you. As you read today's verses, think about what each verse calls the Holy Spirit.

- 2 Cor. 3:3-

- Rom. 1:4-

- John 14: 17 and 16:13-

- John 14:26-

Does your Bible translation use the word "Helper", or does it call the Holy Spirit "Comforter" or "Encourager?" The word in Greek is parakletos, and it means someone who stands with you to help you, encourage you, and strengthen you.

- Heb. 10:29-

This verse tells us that the Holy Spirit brings grace into our lives. But we can insult him by turning away from following God and his word.

- 1 Pet. 4:14-

- Isa. 11:2-

This verse describes the characteristics of the Spirit of the Lord. It is not meant to be a full description of the Holy Spirit's attributes, for there are many others mentioned throughout the Bible.

What are characteristics mentioned in this verse?

#### **Think and Pray**

1. Since the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Holiness, what quality will he bring into our lives when we yield to him? Can you think of a synonym for holiness? What about a word that means the opposite?

2. Why is the Holy Spirit called the Helper, Comforter, or Counselor?

3. Describe a time when you were really aware of the Holy Spirit as your Helper.

## **Day Four**

### **Symbols of the Holy Spirit**

Can a person be described by something impersonal? Sure. The Bible often uses symbolic language to describe real people. Jesus called himself the *Gate* or *Door*, the *Light*, the *Bread of Life*, and the *Vine*. Yet Jesus was definitely a real person. God is called the *Rock*, but he is a real person. So the Holy Spirit is also typified by symbols, but is a person.

When the Bible uses symbolic language, it is there to help us understand one aspect of God's nature. It never means that the symbol has all the characteristics of God. God is called our *Rock*, but he certainly isn't immobile. Also, remember that even though the Holy Spirit can be typified by fire, not all verses in the Bible that talk about fire are talking about the Holy Spirit. Keeping that in mind, think about these symbols of the Holy Spirit. What word picture is used to describe the Holy Spirit in each of the following verses?

- Matt. 3:13-17-
- Acts 2:3 and Luke 3:16-
- John 3:5-8; Acts 2:1ff-

Notice that on the Day of Pentecost there were two fantastic physical manifestations of the Holy Spirit: flames of fire and wind.

### **Think and Pray**

1. Can you think of another symbol or picture that you would use for the Holy Spirit?

To get you started, try finishing this sentence: "The Holy Spirit is like \_\_\_\_\_."

2. Imagine you are a reporter present on the Day of Pentecost. How do you think you would have reported the events you saw?

## **Day Five**

### **How Do We Experience the Holy Spirit**

Let's recap. The Holy Spirit is God. We see that through his names, his titles, and his symbols. Now the question is, how do we know him and experience him?

In the weeks to come we will learn more about who the Holy Spirit is and what he does. But all of that will mean nothing if we don't *experience* the Spirit's work in our lives personally. So today we will look at scriptures that will help us to do just that.

As we will see, the Holy Spirit enters our lives the moment we believe in Jesus and receive forgiveness from our sins. That is the beginning of a life in the Spirit. But the work of the Spirit is meant to be an ongoing reality in our lives. God wants every believer to be a Spirit-filled believer. He never intended two classes— those who are and those who are not. We will learn more about what Spirit-filled means in the weeks to come.

In the Bible people were filled with the Spirit in three ways:

First, there were initial experiences of the Spirit's fullness. These are sometimes called "baptisms in the Spirit." At these powerful, holy moments, God's Spirit filled people, often in groups, and gave them the instantaneous ability to speak and praise in languages they had never heard or learned. Sometimes they also began to speak bold messages by the power of God's Spirit. God still does this today.

Second, there are dynamic moments when the Spirit took full control of people, empowering them for a special and crucial task at hand. That task could have been confronting a demon-possessed man, preaching to a large crowd, or strengthening them for unusual trials. God still does that today, and he does it with people like us. But God does not do these things just to give us the experience. Always there is a purpose for his power.

Third, the Bible tells us to be filled with the Spirit continually. That is the key to living a life that pleases God and glorifies him in our world.

- In Ephesians 3:16,17, what does the Holy Spirit do and why?
- In Ephesians 5:18, 19, what are some of the things the Holy Spirit helps us do?

### **Two Keys to Fullness**

**Stay Open:** We first open our lives to the Holy Spirit's influence when we confess our sins and believe in Jesus as our Savior. But sometimes, for different reasons, we close down, and resist any further work the Spirit wants to do. The first key to constant fullness is staying open to all God's Spirit wants to do in you and through you.

Read Ephesians 4:29-32, especially paying attention to verse 30.

- What does this verse say we can do to the Holy Spirit?

In the verses before and after this one, what kind of activities and attitudes grieve the Holy Spirit?

Now read 1 Thessalonians 5:19.

- What does this verse tell us not to do?
  
- Does it surprise you to know that humans can stifle something God's Spirit is doing?

*"This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you." – 2 Timothy 1:6, NLT*

**Stay Alert:** Many of us live without expectation, never expecting the Holy Spirit to do anything fresh or different in our lives. The second key to constant fullness is to stay alert.

### **Think and Pray**

1. Are you aware of anything you are doing that would grieve or quench the Holy Spirit? If so, why not make a decision today to turn away from that behavior or attitude?

2. What verses from today's reading especially spoke to you?

**Day Six****Journal Entry**

Recall what was important to you about this week's readings. Make a note of anything specific that you are asking God to do in your life and through your life. Also, jot down what you would like to discuss in your small group this week.

## Group Discussion Questions, Week 1

1. Have you always thought of the Holy Spirit as a Person?
2. Why is it important that we understand that the Holy Spirit is a Person?
3. Yoda, from Star Wars, is visiting your small group tonight. "Good, the force is, and bad the force is," Yoda explains. "Choose dark or light, you must." How would you explain the Holy Spirit of God to him?
4. Which divine characteristic of the Holy Spirit means the most to you right now?
5. Describe a time when you experienced the Holy Spirit as your Helper and Encourager.
6. Let's do a little imagining. The Bible describes the Holy Spirit like a dove, like fire, and like a wind. Imagine another way to describe the Holy Spirit. (Note: other Bible pictures include water in John 7:38,39 and perhaps oil, as in anointing oil.) But what picture would you use, and why?
7. Break up into teams of two or three. Take a few minutes to imagine that you are reporters sent by the Jerusalem Times to report on the happenings on the Day of Pentecost. (Note: remember that you are reporters, not editors.)
8. What are the three ways the Bible says that believers are filled with the Holy Spirit? (*Look at Day Four if you need to.*)

If you have time, ask if anyone wants to share something from their journal entry for this week.

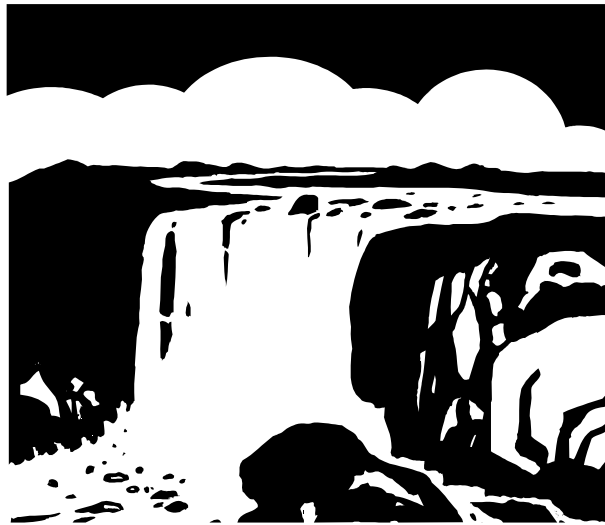
### Prayer Pointers

- Pray for each other to know the Holy Spirit better than you ever have, and to experience him in new and wonderful ways.
- Pray the prayer in Ephesians 1: 17ff

*"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.*

*I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."*

# **Week Two**



**The Holy Spirit  
The Power of Salvation**



**Day Eight**  
**The Holy Spirit's Work *Before* Salvation**

- In John 16:7-11, the work of the Holy Spirit before salvation is described. What does it say the Holy Spirit does?

Think back to the time before you were a believer in Jesus. Do you remember who first told you about Jesus? Do you remember something that seemed to be making you uncomfortable, yet at the same time seemed to be drawing you? That was the Holy Spirit working on your heart through the life and words of the one who told you about Jesus.

**Think and Pray**

1. Why did Jesus say it was good for him to go away?

2. Have you experienced times when you knew the Holy Spirit was drawing people to believe in Jesus through your life and your words? Remember one of those times to share with your group this week.

**Day Nine**  
**The Holy Spirit's Work *in* Salvation**

- In John 3:3-6, Jesus says our natural birth is not enough for us to enter the kingdom of God. We must also be \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit.
- In 2 Cor. 3:6 and Titus 3:5, what does it say the Holy Spirit gives us?

The word for this activity of the Holy Spirit is *regeneration*. Regeneration is only possible for those who believe in Jesus. Other religions and philosophies promise new life, but all they really provide is another system of beliefs. God does so much more! When we believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit makes us, literally, brand new people. This is not magic, nor is it self-hypnosis. It really happens.

- The Spirit not only gives life to our spirit. What else does Rom. 8:11 say He will give life to?

We need to understand this verse as The Holy Spirit intends it. In verses before this one and following it, Paul tells us that the Spirit in us gives us the power to overcome every unrighteous appetite or desire. Furthermore, so great is the Spirit's power in us, that ultimately even these bodies, these places where sin rages, will be made alive with Christ. So the Spirit is working in us now to give us victory over fleshly temptations, and will make us alive for eternity with Christ.

**Think and Pray**

1. Do you know for sure that you are born again? How do you know that?

2. Have you experienced the Holy Spirit's power in you to overcome a particular unrighteous appetite or desire?

## Day Ten

### The Holy Spirit Makes His Home in Us- Becoming Children of God

What will the Holy Spirit do with us?

- Rom. 8: 9-10-
  
- John 14:16,17-
  
- 1 Cor. 6:19,20-

These are amazing verses. Jesus tells his disciples that the Helper, the Spirit of truth will be sent from the Father, and the Spirit will be with them *forever*.

Then he says that he has been *with* them, but shall be *in* them. How was the Holy Spirit with them? In the person of Jesus. But Jesus was “going away.” The promise to them and to all who believe in Jesus, is that God’s Spirit will be in them. Did they understand? We don’t know, but it’s likely that none of it made sense to them until after the his resurrection, ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

*“Have you ever worried about whether or not you really are a Christian? A Christian is anyone who has the Spirit of God living in him or her. If you have sincerely trusted Christ for your salvation and acknowledged him as Lord, then the Holy Spirit has come into your life, and you are a Christian. You won’t know that the Holy Spirit has come if you are waiting for a certain feeling; you will know he has come because Jesus promised he would. When the Holy Spirit is working within you, you will believe that Jesus Christ is God’s Son and that eternal life comes through him.”*

–Life Application Bible

### Think and Pray

1. I Cor. 6: 19-20 says our body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit and that we don't belong to ourselves. When you think of your body in that way, what will you do differently?

## **Day Eleven**

### **The Holy Spirit Assures Us of Our Sonship**

What do the following verses have to tell us the Holy Spirit does for us?

- Rom. 8:15-16
- Eph. 2:18-
- Eph. 1:13- 14 and 4:30-

The Greek word for adoption is *huiothesia*. It means, literally, to be placed as a son. Sons have the full rights and privileges of the family, including inheritance.

Mike Constantine, who helped write this series, is an adopted child. His original name was Ronald Gross. But when he was adopted by the Constantines he became a member of their family, their son, with all the rights and privileges of a son. He did not have to call his father, "Mr. Constantine." He could call him "Daddy," because through adoption that is exactly who he was. And although he was once, long ago, and for a brief time, Ronald Gross, through a legal and binding act, he became Michael Constantine.

When you believed in Jesus, you too became a son of God. If you are a woman, do not let that disturb you. God loves you as a precious daughter, but because of adoption he gives you the full rights, privileges, and inheritance of a son. The laws were different in biblical times, and in some cultures still are. The sons received the inheritance. God assures you, through adoption and the giving of his Spirit, the Spirit of Adoption, that you are his child. You no longer belong to the devil. And the Spirit of God lives in you to remind you, even in your moments of failure, that you are God's child.

#### **Think and Pray:**

1. Can you remember times when you doubted your salvation, had no feelings that you were a child of God? How did the Holy Spirit help you in those times?

2. Thinking about today's verses, what would you tell the person who wrote these lines: "I always thought I was a real child of God, and that I followed him with my whole heart. But now I feel drier and emptier than ever. I wonder if I am still God's child and can't really see any reason to keep following him."

## **Day Twelve**

### **We are Baptized into One Body by the Spirit**

- What does 1 Cor. 12:13 say the Holy Spirit does with people from all different nations and walks of life?

As we approach this section of our readings, it is very important that we have a clear understanding of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives. So, please be a little patient as we set some groundwork.

In this verse Paul is talking about salvation, not a second work of the Spirit. (We will learn more about that later in this series.) It is through salvation that we are born again, born of the Spirit. It is through salvation that we become children of God. In the same way, when God redeems us, and gives us his Spirit, that act places us in the Body of Christ with all who are believers in Jesus.

Paul is also not speaking about water baptism in this passage. Water baptism is a declaration, an important declaration, of new birth and death to our old life and allegiances. And it speaks of our inclusion in the Body of Christ. But Paul is not referring in this passage to the act of water baptism. Rather, he is emphasizing that because of the common indwelling of the Holy Spirit we are all one body. That is the force of the whole chapter. God, through Paul, is reminding the Corinthian Christians, that they have all become part of the Body of Christ in the same manner, so they all belong to Christ *and* to each other.

#### **Think and Pray**

1. Some Christians feel they don't need other Christians. They feel others interfere with their spirituality. Why is this wrong thinking?

2. Being part of the Body of Christ does not mean you are only a part of your local church. It doesn't even mean you are only a part of the Christian church in the world today. You are part of the Body of Christ, believers from all ages and nations. How does that change your thinking about your salvation?

**Day Thirteen****Journal Entry**

Recall what was important to you about this week's readings. Make a note of anything specific that you are asking God to do in your life and through your life. Also, jot down what you would like to discuss in your small group this week.

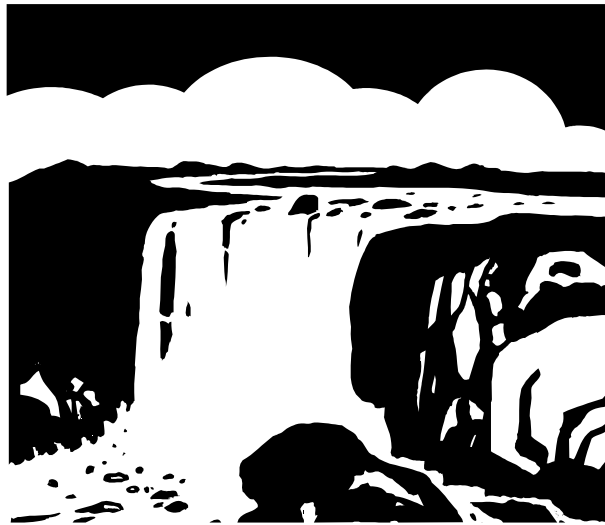
## Group Discussion Questions, Week 2

1. According to John 16:7-11, what does the Holy Spirit do to prepare people to believe in Christ?
2. Tell the group about a time when you knew the Holy Spirit was drawing people to Jesus through your life and words.
3. Describe the change you experienced when you were born again. When did you realize that it was the Holy Spirit who had brought that change?
4. Can you remember times when you doubted your salvation, even had no feelings that you were a believer in Jesus? How did the Holy Spirit help you during those times?
5. Break up into groups of two or three. Discuss for a few minutes what you would tell the person who wrote these lines: "I always *thought* I was a real Christian, that I followed Christ with my whole heart. But I have lost my faith. Everything around me is dry and dark." Why would this person feel this way? What do you think the Holy Spirit is saying to this person? Share your conclusions with the rest of your small group.
6. At salvation we become members of Christ's Body. (I Cor. 12:13) Do some believers feel like they don't need other believers? How can you respond to this attitude?
7. Is it possible to need other believers too much, or in the wrong way?
8. Take a few moments to share some of your journal thoughts with the group.

### Prayer Points

- Pray for anyone you know who needs to believe in Jesus. Pray that those people will respond to the work of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for anyone in your group, or anyone you know personally who is having doubts about their salvation.
- Pray that each member of your group will realize the great value of being a member of the Body of Christ.

# **Week Three**



**The Holy Spirit**  
**The Power of Discipleship**



**Day Fifteen**  
**The Holy Spirit is Our Teacher– part one**

- John 14:26- As our teacher, what will the Holy Spirit do for us?
- I John 2:20, 27- What does the Holy Spirit teach us?

The anointing described here refers to the Holy Spirit as our resident teacher. These verses do not mean that believers in Jesus don't need teachers. That would contradict other verses where the Bible describes the ministry of teachers, such as Ephesians 4:11 and James 3:1.

In the context of this verse, John tells us that the Holy Spirit will help us to recognize error when we hear it. And He does! Many believers can testify to the reality of the Spirit in this.

- Ehp. 4:11- The Holy Spirit has gifted some people in special ways to help build up the Body of Christ. Teachers are one type, what are some of the other types of ministries God gives to the church?
- James 3:1- James indicates that not everyone is a teacher. What warning does he give to teachers?

**Think and Pray**

1. Can you remember a time when the Holy Spirit helped you to know some teaching wasn't true?

**Day Sixteen**  
**The Holy Spirit is Our Teacher– part two**

In the following verses, what can we see about the way the Holy Spirit teaches us?

- John 16:13, 15-
- John 16:14-
- 1 Cor. 2:9-1-

The Greek word here used for deep is *bathos*. It is also used to describe the very deepest places in the sea. So the Holy Spirit, being God, can reveal the deepest parts of God's thoughts. This verse is not meant to describe a special group of people who have learned the "deeper things" of God. To Paul the deepest part of God is the mystery of the Gospel: that God would redeem man to himself through a crucified, risen, and exalted Messiah.

**Think and Pray**

1. Why is it important to our spiritual life that the Holy Spirit leads us into all truth?

2. What is one thing the Holy Spirit has shown you recently about God?

**Day Seventeen**  
**The Holy Spirit– Making Us More Like Jesus**

What does holiness look like? What does it sound like? Are we more holy if we use weird language and dress in a peculiar manner? Is King James English more holy than everyday language? The word sanctify means the same thing as “to make holy.”

Jesus spoke and dressed in the style of his day. But he radiated purity everywhere he went.

What do the following verses have to say about the Holy Spirit’s work in our lives?

- 2 Thes. 2:13-
  
- 1 Pet. 1:2-
  
- 1 Cor. 6:11-

**Think and Pray**

1. Can you see areas in your life where you are more like Jesus now than when you first believed? Have you found some old habits no longer bind you? Thank God that the Holy Spirit has been at work in your life.

## **Day Eighteen**

### **The Holy Spirit Gives Victory Over Sin**

Sin is any action or thought that is destructive to us and others and does not bring glory to God. It is pervasive: every life has it. It constantly tempts us. And it is powerful. But God's Spirit is much more powerful!

Read Rom. 8:2-4, 13-

- What is the power of sin in our lives is called?
- Could we get free from the power of sin by our own strength?
- What is the natural consequence of living under the power of sin?
- If we are living according to the Spirit, what do we do with sinful deeds?

Read 1 Cor. 6:15-20- Paul is talking about just one type of sin in this passage, sexual immorality.

- What does Paul say we should do when we are tempted with immorality?
- If our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who do we belong to?  
When we have victory over sin, we honor God.
- In Gal. 5: 16, what is the effect of walking or living in the Spirit?

Read Gal. 5: 24-25-

- When we belong to Christ, what have we done to fleshly passions?
- When we live by the Spirit, what else will we do?

In the Bible when it talks about our "walk," it is referring to our whole manner of life. The Holy Spirit gives us victory over sin as we allow him to affect our whole way of life: what we say, what we do, what we desire.

### **Think and Pray**

1. Is there a sin in your life that you need victory over? Why not ask the Holy Spirit to put it to death?

2. Think about victories the Holy Spirit has given you and consider sharing one of them in your small group.

**Day Nineteen**  
**The Holy Spirit Produces Character**

- Gal. 5:22- 23- What character traits does the Holy Spirit produce in our lives?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Rom. 14:17- How is the kingdom of God described?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Rom.15:13- What is another character trait the Holy Spirit gives us?

**Think and Pray**

1. What character trait can you see the Holy Spirit has been growing in your life?

2. What are some of the ways he has helped this trait to develop?

**Day Twenty:**

**Journal Entry**

Recall what was important to you about this week's readings. Make a note of anything specific that you are asking God to do in your life and through your life. Also, jot down what you would like to discuss in your small group this week.

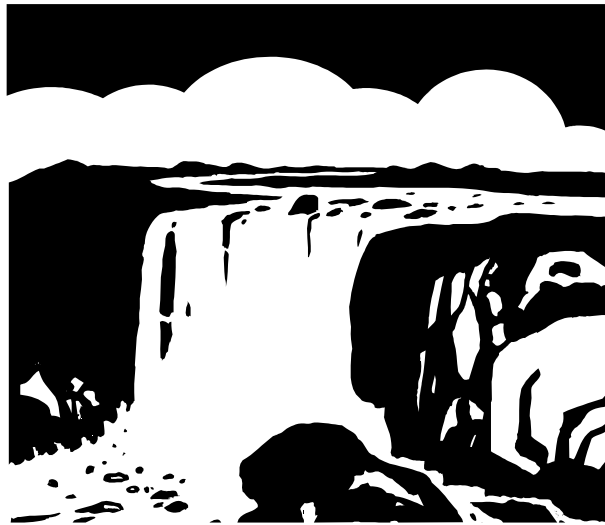
### **Group Discussion Questions, Week 3**

1. The Holy Spirit is our resident teacher. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do as our teacher? (See *John 14:26*)
2. Can you recall a time when the Holy Spirit helped you to know that a teaching or idea wasn't true? Share that with your group.
3. Describe something the Holy Spirit has recently helped you learn about God. This can be something new, or a *refresher lesson*.
4. Would the Holy Spirit ever tell you anything that contradicts or goes beyond the written Word of God? Why?
5. Can you share some areas in your life where you are more like Jesus than you used to be?
6. John, a believer, is on a business trip. It's the third trip that month. He goes to a restaurant and picks a table for dinner. An attractive woman comes in and takes the table next to him. "It sure is lonely traveling on business," she says. What will the Holy Spirit lead John to do?
7. Are there any victories over sin the Holy Spirit has helped you to win? Could you share one of them with your group?
8. Finish this statement, "The quality I most admire in other Christians is . . . ." How do you think they developed that quality?

### **Prayer Points**

- Pray that each member of your group will learn the lessons the Spirit is teaching them right now.
- Pray that we will yield our lives to the Holy Spirit so that his fruit will become more and more evident in our lives.
- Pray that all in the group will learn to abide in Christ and rely on the Spirit's life in their lives.

# **Week Four**



**The Holy Spirit  
The Power of Devotion  
and Warfare**



## **Day Twenty-Two**

### **The Holy Spirit is the Power of Worship**

Worship is the response of my heart to a holy loving, and faithful God. In one sense all of life is meant to be worship. But there are also special seasons of worship, what we are calling *devotional* worship. Those times, whether personal or corporate, are energized by the Holy Spirit.

#### **No Fire, No Fragrance**

In Exodus 30, God instructed Moses to build an altar for burning incense. Each day the priests were to place incense on this altar. Fire in this special incense altar released the fragrance of the incense, which then filled the tabernacle.

Picture your life like that altar. You are in a meeting at church. The worship team starts a song. The words flash up on the screen. You begin to sing them. The whole atmosphere seems to change. Why? Because the fire of the Holy Spirit is releasing the fragrance in the song. Some songs have no fragrance, only a catchy tune and a couple vague spiritual concepts. But others, whether simple or complex, are filled with wonderful images and truths. They are real incense. Some who sing them have no fire, so no fragrance comes out. But others, filled with God's Spirit, release the fragrance and it fills the place.

- John 4:23, 24- What kind of worshipers does God want us to be?

In this passage "in spirit and truth" means something like "in reality and sincerity." But since God is spirit, and since we are born of the Spirit, our worship transcends places and practices. It is now something precious that flows from the depths of our hearts.

- Phil 3:3- How are we to worship?

Worship here is the Greek word that means "sacred service." For believers in Jesus the Spirit enables all of life to be "sacred service," including our worship services.

- Ephesians 2:22- We can worship God by ourselves, but what do we become when we worship together in the Spirit?
- I Cor. 3:16 -What do we become when we worship together?

In this verse the word "you" is plural, something like the Southern "Y'all." It means that the whole body of believers in Corinth were God's Temple in that city. God's Spirit lived in them.

- Eph. 5:18-20–When we are filled with the Spirit, what are some of the ways we worship together?

(Spirit-filled people sing! They may sing like canaries, like whales, or like sparrows, but they sing! And their songs, even when addressed to God, also provide teaching to the other believers. Haven't you learned something about God through songs, hymns, and spiritual songs?

**Think and Pray**

1. What song do we sing in church that you sense an anointing on? Can you see why that song would particularly cause you to worship?

2. Why do you think God emphasizes the importance of worshipping together?

## **Day Twenty-Three**

### **The Holy Spirit– The Power of Prayer and Intercession**

- Eph. 2:18- Paul is talking to both Jews and Gentiles. What does he say that the Holy Spirit provides for both Jews and Gentiles?

Access. Isn't that a great word? Today we hear a lot of talk about equal access for the disabled. But God originated the concept. In this verse, Paul tells us that everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their personality, has access to the Father, through Christ, by the Holy Spirit. Nothing can keep you out of the Father's presence except your unwillingness to go there. Nothing can close the door. You can refuse to walk through it, but it is still there for you. It doesn't matter how you feel. It doesn't matter if you are a new Christian or a long-time believer. You have equal access to the Father through Christ, by the Holy Spirit.

- Eph. 6:18- When are we to pray?

Anytime is the right time to pray, and the Spirit makes that possible.

- Rom. 8:26-27- Why do we feel weak in prayer?

Powerful! When you don't think you can pray, the Holy Spirit helps you to pray. When you don't know what to pray, the Holy Spirit helps you. When you have no words to pray, the Holy Spirit helps you. These verses tell us that the Spirit prays through us in groanings deeper than words.

#### **Think and Pray**

1. Have you ever been denied access to a place you should have had the right to enter? How did that make you feel?

2. Have you ever felt like you could not pray, didn't know what to pray, or had no words to pray?

3. Do you remember a time when you did not know how to pray, or what to pray, and the Holy Spirit helped you?

## **Day Twenty-Four**

### **Praying in the Spirit**

One of the most common spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible is the gift of tongues. Alas, it is also one of the most controversial. In today's readings, we want to help you understand this gift and desire it, too.

#### **Why are we afraid of speaking in tongues?**

- We fear what we do not understand. Solution: Get proper understanding from God's Word.
- We fear what has been abused. Solution: Discover how to avoid abuses, but don't throw out the gift.
- We fear what has been misrepresented. Solution: Balanced teaching without prejudice.

#### **What praying in Tongues Is:**

- Acts 2:4, 6-11- A genuine language, usually unknown to the one who is praying, but not always.
- I Cor 14:2- A language that flows from our spirits, bypassing our intellect
- I Cor 14:2- A language that heaven understands perfectly
- I Cor 14:15- A tremendous help in prayer and intercession
- I Cor 14:32-33- A language that we can control. It is not ecstasy, or trance.
- Eph. 6:18- A language of Spirit-empowered prayer
- Jude 20- A language that is always beneficial to those who pray with it.

At a prayer meeting at Denver Seminary an international student began praying in a language unknown to any of those present. Later, they told him how beautiful his prayer was. "Was that your national language," they asked? "No, it was a language God gave me." The students protested that at that Seminary they did not believe in speaking in tongues. "Very foolish!" the international student replied, "In Bible!"

#### **Think and Pray**

1. Today, all over the world, millions of believers in Jesus, filled with His Spirit, pray in this miraculous manner every day. Why not ask God to make you one of them?

## **Day Twenty-Five**

### **The Holy Spirit– The Power of Spiritual Warfare**

Spiritual warfare is the ongoing, unceasing battle that all believers are in. It is both individual and corporate. Each of us is in it, and all of us are in it.

It would be so unfair for a commander to send his troops to battle without giving them weapons powerful enough to win a decisive victory. In our spiritual battle we have the greatest weapons of all and they are empowered by the Holy Spirit.

- Ephesians 6:10-18- What kinds of weapons can you find in the following verses?
  
- 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5- How are these weapons described?

As part of today's lesson, read slowly and carefully, preferably out loud, the words to this great song by Martin Luther:

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God  
A mighty Fortress is our God, a stronghold never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great; and, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.  
Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
The Lord of Hosts His Name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.  
And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;  
One little word shall fell him.  
That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth;  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;  
His kingdom is forever.*

### **Think and Pray**

1. One of the weapons the Holy Spirit gives us to help us in our warfare is truth. Has truth ever helped you win a battle? How?
  
2. Is there another weapon from the Holy Spirit that you have used successfully in a battle?

## **Day Twenty-Six**

### **The Power of Prayer**

Today we will read some great thoughts on prayer from James Montgomery:

*Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Unuttered or expressed;  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast.*

*Prayer is the burden of a sigh,  
The falling of a tear  
The upward glancing of an eye,  
When none but God is near.*

*Prayer is the simplest form of speech  
That infant lips can try;  
Prayer the sublimest strains that reach  
The Majesty on high.*

*Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,  
Returning from his ways,  
While angels in their songs rejoice  
And cry, "Behold, he prays!"*

*Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,  
The Christian's native air,  
His watchword at the gates of death;  
He enters heaven with prayer.*

*The saints in prayer appear as one  
In word and deed and mind,  
While with the Father and the Son  
Sweet fellowship they find.*

*Nor prayer is made by man alone,  
The Holy Spirit pleads,  
And Jesus on the eternal throne  
For sinners intercedes.*

*O Thou, by Whom we come to God,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod:  
Lord, teach us how to pray!*

### **Think and Pray**

1. Now it's your turn. Write a prayer. It can be in verse, in words, in thoughts, anything at all. And when you meet with your small group this week, perhaps you can share it with them.

## **Day Twenty-Seven**

### **Journal Entry**

Recall what was important to you about this week's readings. Make a note of anything specific that you are asking God to do in your life and through your life. Also, jot down what you would like to discuss in your small group this week.

## **Group Discussion Questions, Week 4**

*Note: This week is pretty packed. Choose your questions from the ones listed here.*

1. Discuss this statement: Our devotional life with God empowers us for victory in spiritual battles. Why is that true?
2. Have you ever had a personal time of worship, just you and God, when you were especially aware of the Holy Spirit's presence? Can you share that with your group?
3. Is the Holy Spirit always felt in worship when he is present in worship?
4. Break up into twos or threes. Discuss this question for a few minutes: What are some differences between spiritual worship and unspiritual worship? Share your conclusions with the rest of the group.
5. Think of some important reasons for worshipping together.
6. Have you ever been denied access to a place? Describe the place and how it made you feel to be kept out.
7. Can you tell about a time when you did not know how to pray, or what to pray, and the Holy Spirit helped you?
8. Does praying in tongues seem weird to you? Can you see from our readings how valuable it is?

This is a good time to remember the first key to being Spirit-filled: Stay Open. You may not understand something, but if there is good biblical evidence for it, you have no reason to fear it. In fact, God's Spirit will create a desire in you for all he wants to do in you. Stay open.

9. Truth is a powerful weapon when energized by the Spirit. Can you share a time when the truth helped you win a battle? (Be specific, not general)

### **Prayer Points**

This week's readings included in a poem on prayer by James Montgomery. Then we asked you to write a prayer. Take some time to hear the prayers of some of the group members.



# **Week Five**



**The Holy Spirit  
The Power for Ministry**

## **Day Twenty-Nine**

### **What is Ministry? An Introduction**

Ministry is another word for the work God carries out through His Body, the church. Ministry is for everybody, not just professionals. Ministry comes in all forms, and there is a form that God wants to use you in.

Don't let the word scare you. It comes from a Greek word that simply means "to serve." So ministry means allowing God to use you to serve others. And God can use anyone who lets him . . . children, teens, young or old.

As an example of one kind of ministry or service, let's consider a man in the Bible with a long name and a big heart, Onesiphorus. Paul had led Onesiphorus to believe in Jesus at an earlier time. His name means "useful."

- 2 Timothy 1:16,17- Where was Paul when he wrote to Timothy about Onesiphorus?
  
- What did Onesiphorus do that led Paul to say he was a good servant?

### **Think and Pray**

1. In Matt. 25:35-40, Jesus is telling a story. He said people would be rewarded for what they did. Think about the people He called righteous, what had they done? These were not difficult things to do. They didn't have to go a long way from home to do them. What service can you do for others?

## **Day Thirty**

### **The Holy Spirit Builds Us Together for Ministry**

- Romans 12:3-8- What gifts are listed in these verses?
  
- What attitudes are we supposed to have when we use these gifts?

God wants every believer to be in ministry. We have different gifts and different levels of development in our gifts. We have different abilities. But we are all united and empowered by God's Spirit for ministry that brings glory to our God.

When Paul wrote this passage his emphasis was on the unity of the believers in Rome. The list of different "ministries" he gives here is mixed: some are supernatural, others are natural abilities used by God. He calls all of them "charismata." Here's a great definition of charismata from Gordon Fee, the foremost charismatic scholar in the world: *Charismata are concrete expressions of grace.* Grace, like air, can't be seen. But its effects can be seen. We see grace in Jesus, coming to earth to die for our sins. We see it in every life changed by believing in him. And here Paul tells us that grace can be seen, in concrete expressions, through the members of the Body of Christ using their gifts, ministries, and abilities for God's glory.

These verses in Romans 12 are not a list of "motivational gifts" as some have taught. That concept does not occur in the Bible. This is a list of some, but not all, of the ways God's Spirit can use people in the body of Christ. And notice the blend: prophecy is here, but also "helping." Which one is more an expression of grace? They both are. So the person exercising the spiritual gift of prophecy is, according to the Bible, no more "spiritual" than the guy who sets up the chairs. Both are concrete expressions of God's grace, motivated by the Spirit of God.

#### **Think and Pray**

1. Which of the gifts listed in Rom. 12 have you seen someone in the church do? Were they a totally supernatural gift or were they natural talents energized by the Holy Spirit?

2. Are there any of these gifts that you have done in the church?

## **Day Thirty-One**

### **The Gifts of the Spirit– part one**

Begin by reading, I Cor. 12:8-10

In the verses we are reading today, Paul lists nine Spiritual Gifts that are completely supernatural. None of the nine is a natural ability. All can only occur through the activity of the Holy Spirit in and through our lives. Some teach that these gifts no longer occur, but there is nothing in the Bible to support that teaching.

“Church History clearly refutes any notion that charismatic gifts faded away after the apostolic era. Other than diminishing somewhat during the middle ages (probably due to the inaccessibility to scripture by the common people), it is obvious that spiritual gifts were never completely absent from the church. Scores of statements to this effect were recorded by church leaders such as Irenaeus, who wrote around A.D. 150 "...we hear many of the brethren in the church who have prophetic gifts, and who speak in tongues through the spirit, and who also bring to light the secret things of men for their benefit [word of knowledge]..." Elsewhere he said, "When God saw it necessary, and the church prayed and fasted much, they did miraculous things, even of bringing back the spirit to a dead man." (Refutation and Overthrow of False Doctrine, Pg. 174). Near the close of the second century, Tertullian cited similar incidents, describing the operation of prophecies, healings and tongues, and in 210, Origen reported many healings and other charismatic gifts, as did later writers such as Eusebius, Firmilian, Chrysostom and others throughout many centuries.

“The Encyclopedia Britannica says that spiritual gifts such as glossalalia (speaking in tongues) has occurred in Christian revivals of every age. In the same vein, Souer's History of the Christian Church (Vol. 3, Page 406) cites a reference to the famed leader of the protestant reformation of the 16th century, stating, "Dr. Martin Luther was a prophet, evangelist, speaker in tongues, and interpreter, in one person, endowed with all the gifts of the Spirit." - Dale Robbins, Victorious.org

Spiritual gifts have been abused, neglected, and wrongly defined. Even so, God's Spirit brings these manifestations of power wherever his people will allow him to.

### **Think and Pray**

1. Which of the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit have you ever seen?

2. Have you ever experienced any of these supernatural gifts of the Spirit?

## **Day Thirty-Two**

### **The Gifts of the Spirit– part two– The Nine Supernatural Gifts defined**

Let's read I Cor. 12:8-10 again.

These gifts might be well defined as "A temporary, supernatural intervention of natural laws, bestowed by the Holy Spirit where His presence is invited and accommodated." Individually, each gift is defined as follows:

- The word of wisdom– A Word refers to "a supernaturally imparted fragment," while wisdom, generally means prudence, decision making.
- The word of knowledge– A supernaturally inspired utterance of facts, usually facts the speaker could not know naturally.
- Faith– A supernatural impartation of assurance in God focused on a specific area of need or a specific challenge.
- Gifts of healing– Supernaturally ministering health to the sick.
- Working of miracles– A supernatural intervention of natural laws. The Greek describes it as "works of power" and implies instantaneous results.
- Prophecy– A supernaturally inspired utterance from God. A genuine prophetic utterance never contradicts, neither is equal to, the written Word of God. To forthtell or foretell. To speak from the mind of God. Prophecies are to be judged (1 Cor. 14:29, 1 Thes. 5:20-21).
- Distinguishing of spirits– This is a supernatural ability to discern a person's spiritual character and the source of his actions and messages, such as from the Holy Spirit, demon spirits, the human spirit or from the flesh.
- Different kinds of tongues– A supernaturally imparted utterance in an unlearned language which is interpreted as a prophecy to the body for their edification. (This is distinguished from "praying" in tongues, which is intended to edify one's own spirit – 1 Cor. 14:14.) A message in tongues to the body is always to be interpreted (by another gift), and is limited to three within a gathering (1 Cor. 14:27).
- Interpretation of tongues– This is the supernatural interpretation of a message in tongues into the understandable language of the hearers. It is not a "translation" but an interpretation.
- (With thanks to Dale Robbins, Victorious.org, and the authors he cites)

Who can the Spirit use to manifest a spiritual gift? Any believer who is filled with the Spirit and open to the Spirit's work in their life.

### **Think and Pray**

1. Nothing pleases God more than our being open to him. Why not tell God you are willing for him to give you any gift of the Spirit?



### **Day Thirty-Four**

#### **Journal Entry**

Recall what was important to you about this week's readings. Make a note of anything specific that you are asking God to do in your life and through your life. Also, jot down what you would like to discuss in your small group this week.

## **Group Discussion Questions, Week 5**

1. Look again at 2 Timothy 1:16,17. What did Onesiphorus do to help Paul? Describe the things he did in detail.
2. Read Matthew 25:35-40 again. What kinds of good things did Jesus commend? Have you ever done any of those things? Do you think you could? What would keep you from it?
3. Look at Romans 12:3-8 again. Go around the group and ask each member how the Lord has used them in these “concrete expressions of God’s grace.”
4. Look at I Cor. 12:9-11. Which of these supernatural gifts have you seen in operation?
5. Can you share with your group how God has used you in a one of the supernatural gifts listed here?
6. Why is love so vital in the operation of spiritual gifts?

## **Prayer Points**

- Pray that each member of your group will be alert to every opportunity the Spirit is giving them to bless or help another person.
- Pray that each member of your group will be delivered from their prejudices and fears so that the Spirit can use them more freely.



# **Week Six**



**The Holy Spirit  
The Power for Mission**

**Day Thirty-Six**  
**The Holy Spirit Empowers us to Witness to the World**

Let's begin today by looking at some of the last words Jesus spoke after his resurrection, and just before he went back to heaven. In these words we will discover the key to our mission

Luke 24:46-49, The Message Translation

*He said, "You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations--starting from here, from Jerusalem! You're the first to hear and see it. You're the witnesses. What comes next is very important: I am sending what my Father promised to you, so stay here in the city until he arrives, until you're equipped with power from on high."*

**Think and Pray**

From reading these verses, what would you say is the one key the disciples needed to carry out their mission?

## **Day Thirty-Seven**

### **The Holy Spirit on Pentecost**

The following scriptures describe the Day of Pentecost. As you read the passages, answer the questions:

What would or what did the Holy Spirit do?

Who were being told about the promise of the Holy Spirit?

What did the HS do in them?

- Acts 1:5-
  
- Acts 1:8-
  
- Acts 1:15, 2:4-
  
- Acts 2:17-18-
  
- Acts 2:33-
  
- Acts 2:38-



**Day Thirty–Nine**  
**The Holy Spirit in the Acts of the Apostles– part two**

As you read the following Scriptures, you will see a record of the Holy Spirit's work in the days following Jesus' resurrection and the early days of the Church. You may need to read the verses that precede or follow the ones listed to get the full meaning. As you read the passages, answer the questions:

Who was filled with the HS?

How does the Bible describe them?

What happened to those who were filled with the HS?

- Acts 8:29-
  
- Acts 8:39-
  
- Acts 9:17-
  
- Acts 9:31-
  
- Acts 10:19-
  
- Acts 10:38-
  
- Acts 10:44-46-
  
- Acts 10:47-
  
- Acts 11:24-
  
- Acts 11:28-

**Day Forty**  
**The Holy Spirit in the Acts of the Apostles– part three**

As you read the following Scriptures, you will see a record of the Holy Spirit's work in the days following Jesus' resurrection and the early days of the Church. You may need to read the verses that precede or follow the ones listed to get the full meaning. As you read the passages, answer the questions:

Who was filled with the HS?

How does the Bible describe them?

What happened to those who were filled with the HS?

- Acts 13:2-
  
- Acts 13:4-
  
- Acts 13:8-10-
  
- Acts 13:52-
  
- Acts 15:8-
  
- Acts 15:28-
  
- Acts 16:6-7-
  
- Acts 19:2-
  
- Acts 19:6-
  
- Acts 20:22-23-
  
- Acts 20:28-

## **Group Discussion Questions, Week 6**

*This week there are only a few discussion questions. We encourage you to use the majority of your time in prayer, specifically for each member of the group to be open to the Spirit's work in their life.*

1. Read Luke 24:46-49. From these verses what is the key to being effective witnesses for Christ?
2. Look back at these verses and briefly describe who the promise was given to, and what was promised, or what happened.

Acts 1:5-

Acts 1:8-

Acts 1:15 and 2:4 -

Acts 2:17,18 -

Acts 2:33 -

Acts 2:38 -

3. Read Acts 2:39. Who is the promise of the Holy Spirit for? Does that include you? Does that include everyone in your group?

### **Prayer Points**

Pray for everyone in the group to be completely filled with the Holy Spirit and completely open to his work in their lives.