

# Small Group Discussion

## Week 21



### Chapter 21 – The Spirit of God

Remember, teach what you learn and share life, not just information.

#### Coaching Conversations:

In discussing the Bible and theology, it's very common for people to make statements that clarify their understanding of what Scripture says. Often, whether they realize it or not, your group members might be taking a stance on a certain theological doctrine. Just as would be expected of any position paper, public statement, or research report, the views of your group members (and yourself!) should always be supported by Scripture. Sometimes it's really tempting to make a theological statement or a Biblical interpretation based on our own thoughts and presuppositions. If done inaccurately, this will often lead to a mis-interpretation of the text and ultimately, unorthodox beliefs (sometimes known as heresy). This is why we need to provide Scriptural support for why we believe what we believe. In offering that support, it will open the door for good discussion on the true interpretation of the text. If the Bible serves as our ONLY source of inspired, inerrant and infallible revelation from God, then we need to give credit where credit is due by backing up comments with actual passages. As you're leading, strive to model this for your group members by supporting your comments, points, and observations with Scriptural references. This is especially important in this chapter where we discuss the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. As group members share their thoughts and opinions, ask them to "Back that up..." with Scripture. In doing this, you will be intentionally modeling how we look to Scripture as our only source infallible truth.

#### How HIS-story becomes My Story:

**GOD'S STORY** - God sends the Holy Spirit, the 3rd person of the Trinity, to dwell within believers.

**OUR STORY** - We, as believers, are given the Holy Spirit to empower and equip us to execute the divine will of God.

**MY STORY** - My response is to rely on the Holy Spirit, rather than myself, to do God's will.

#### Starting the Conversation:

Begin your group time by asking group members to define the Trinity. How would they describe the Godhead? Use our definition (listed at the end of the first article listed below) to bring all your group members onto the same page.

#### Additional Recommended Resources:

"What does the Bible teach about the Trinity?" – GotQuestions.org article

"What does it mean to grieve/quench the Holy Spirit?" – GotQuestions.org article

"What does it mean to walk in the Spirit?" – GotQuestions.org article

## **Life Group Questions**

1. Take a minute to consider the significance of the promise of the Holy Spirit in Ezekiel 36:25–27. Explain why this promise is so important in the history of redemption.
2. How should seeing the Holy Spirit as a person and as God Himself change the way you relate to Him?
3. Read Acts 2 carefully. As you read, pay attention to two things: (1) references to Old Testament truths and promises and (2) references to the Holy Spirit. What references do you see in Peter’s sermon to some of the key concepts you studied in the Old Testament sessions?
4. What does this passage say about the Holy Spirit? How was the Holy Spirit working at this significant moment in redemption history?
5. Read Romans 7 and 8. What does Paul’s comparison of these two ways of living say about the role of the Holy Spirit and our need for Him?
6. How have you seen the Spirit of God working in the life of our church? If you are having trouble identifying the work of the Spirit, why do you think the Spirit’s work isn’t being clearly seen in your church?
7. How are you partnering with other members of the body of Christ to be used by the Spirit in fulfilling God’s mission on earth?

### **Prayer Assignment:**

Thank God for the incredible gift of the Holy Spirit. Pray that you would be empowered to pursue and rely on the Spirit’s power in your life. Pray that God would work through the life of your church to bring healing, hope, and change to the world around you.