

Lesson for Week of January 6: The Holy Spirit

Small Group & Personal Bible Study

Memory Verse: 1 John 4:13

We know that we live in Him and He in us, because He has given us His Spirit.

Lesson: Read John 14

1. It seems that most of us speak often of Jesus Christ and of God the Father, but how would you describe the Holy Spirit to someone?

Use this as an opportunity to see what people in your group understand about the Holy Spirit and His important work in our lives. It is my prayer that God will reveal himself in a new and beautiful way as we focus in on His ministry into our lives.

The Holy Spirit reveals truth. He let's us know and believe in the grace poured out by God the Father in the sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ. And He teaches us and guides our lives into obedience and sanctification.

2. Based upon what Jesus tells us recorded in John 14, what is the reason God sent us His Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the presence and power of God in our lives. Jesus had to leave us and return to His Father and so the Holy Spirit was His replacement. However, the Holy Spirit is not a "second string" but rather exactly what we needed most. His ministry is one of revealing truth, teaching, and guiding our lives everyday until that day.

3. How important is the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

Without the ministry of the Holy Spirit, we could not hear or believe the truth.

Read the following scriptures for additional insight into the important work of the Holy Spirit.

- 1 John 3:23-24, 4:13
- 1 Corinthians 2:6-16
- 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17
- 2 Peter 1:21
- 2 Timothy 1:7-9

4. What would be the result of the grace of God and Christ's work on the cross without the Holy Spirit's presence and power?

Scripture seems to indicate that without the work of the Holy Spirit, we would not believe or understand the Truth of God's Word. In fact without the Holy Spirit we would not have God's Word. We certainly could not experience sanctification without the Holy Spirit convicting us of truth and empowering us in His guidance and strength.

Discovery Bible Study Exercise:

In your journal or on a piece of paper make three columns and follow these steps:

- Step #1: Write out John 14:16-17
- Step #2: Re-write John 14:16-17 in your own words
- Step #3: Write out what you discover about the Holy Spirit from this scripture teaching of Jesus.

Daily Meditation Readings:

Day 1 – 1 John 4:7-21

Day 2 – John 14:1-14

Day 3 – John 14:15-31

Day 4 – John 15: 1-17

Day 5 – John 15:18-27