

LIFE GROUP notes

05 July



Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Discipleship Journey – Holy Spirit



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member who the Holy Spirit is, and why we need His power as believers?
2. What does Matthew 1:18b tell us about Jesus's relationship with the Holy Spirit? (**...Mary was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.**).
3. What does Luke 3:22 tell us about Jesus' relationship with the Holy Spirit? (**The Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove.**).
4. What happened to the believers in Acts 2:4? (**All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled...**).



Let's go deeper

5. What does Hebrews 9:14 tell us about the Holy Spirit? (**How much more then will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit...**).
6. What does John 14:16 tell us about Holy Spirit? (**I will ask the Father and He will give you another Advocate "Parakletos" to help you...**).
7. Why does the Holy Spirit empower believers? (**Acts 1:8, You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth.**).
8. How can believers receive the Holy Spirit? (**Acts 8:17, Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**).



Let's apply this

9. **Matthew 3:11**; I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit** and fire.
 - Have you received the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
 - Have spiritual gifts been activated in your life?
 - Ask your life group leader to pray with you to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit – see Acts 8:17; Acts 9:17; Acts 19:6
 - Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you with the gifts of Holy Spirit – see 1 Corinthians 12 and 14.

SUMMARY:

Discipleship Journey – Holy Spirit

Read: Matt.3:11; Acts 1:8 & 2:1–7

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18) and so had the Holy Spirit in Him all His life, but He still needed to be filled or baptised with the Holy Spirit in order to fulfil all that His Father had sent Him to do. This happened when He was baptised in water at the river Jordan (Luke 3:21 – 22).

The disciples received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed on them (John 20:22), but they were told to wait until they had received the baptism with the Holy Spirit before they began their ministry (Acts 1:4 – 5; Acts 2:2 – 4).

The Bible uses many different ways to describe this filling:

These include being filled (Acts 2:4), being baptised (Acts 1:5), the Holy Spirit coming upon (Acts 1:8), receiving the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17), pouring out of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:45). We are not just to be filled once and leave it at that. We need to be continually filled (Ephesians 5:18). The first disciples were filled at least twice (Acts 2:1 – 4; Acts 4:31).

The Holy Spirit is a Person. This means He can communicate and make Himself real to us. We cannot necessarily see Him, but He is real and can make a great impact on our lives. He is the third member of the Threefold Godhead. Like God the Father and God the Son, the Holy Spirit is **eternal** (Hebrews 9:14), **omnipresent** – present everywhere (Psalm 139:7), **omniscient** – all knowing (1 Cor. 2:10), and **omnipotent** – all powerful (Luke 1:35).

John 14:16 – 17; And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper (**Parakletos**), to be with you forever...

Parakletos meaning:

"Comforter" (KJV) - "Counsellor" (NIV) - "Advocate" (NRSV) - "Helper" (ESV, NASB).

Parakletos definition: "Called to the side of" for the purpose of helping.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to be effective witnesses. A witness is one who not only tells the truth but also lives the truth. It is impossible to be an effective witness for Christ apart from the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:8).

Many disciples in the New Testament received the baptism in the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands. (Acts 8:17; Acts 9:17 and Acts 19:6).

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is accompanied by the manifestation of spiritual gifts. In the biblical accounts of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the most common spiritual gift manifested is the gift of tongues and prophecy. (Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44 – 46; Acts 19:6; 1 Cor.14:1– 5 and 1 Cor.14:14 – 15; 39 – 40).