**UNDERSTANDING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**John 14:16-17, 26; 16:7-8**

* Jesus - *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. 17 He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive Him because it doesn’t see Him or know Him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you.”* (John 14:16-17)
* Jesus - *“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.”* (John 14:26)
* Jesus - *“Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth. It is for your benefit that I go away, because if I don’t go away the Counselor will not come to you. If I go, I will send Him to you. 8 When He comes, He will convict the world about sin, righteousness, and judgment:”* (John 16:7-8)
* *“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”* (Acts 2:38)
* *“In Him you also were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed. 14 The Holy Spirit is the down payment of our inheritance, until the redemption of the possession, to the praise of His glory.”* (Ephesians 1:13-14)

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A SUPERNATURAL PERSON**

* **The Bible ascribes to the Holy Spirit the attributes and actions of someone who is a “person” rather than a “power.”**
* **Although He is “supernatural,” like a “natural person” the Holy Spirit: 1) Speaks to others (Acts 13:2), 2) Intercedes for others (Romans 8:26), 3) Testifies about others (John 15:26), 4) Gives people direction (Acts 16:5-7), 5) Guides people into truth (John 16:13) and 6) Appoints people to be leaders (Acts 20:28).**
* *“The Spirit told Philip, ‘Go and join that chariot.’”* (Acts 8:29)
* **Great things happen in our lives and for others lives when we learn how to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit.**
* **Although He is “supernatural,” like a “natural person” the Holy Spirit can be: 1) Lied to (Acts 5:3-4)** like Ananias & Sapphira did**, 2) Insulted (Hebrews 10:29), 3) Blasphemed (Matthew 12:31-32), and 4) Grieved (Ephesians 4:30).**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PART OF THE TRIUNE GOD**

* **When we describe God as a “Triune God,” we mean that He is one God who manifests Himself in three different persons - God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.**
* **The Bible teaches the reality of the Trinity in both the Old and New Testaments.**
* *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.”* (Genesis 1:1-2)
* *“Then God said, “Let us make man[e] in[f] our image, according to our likeness.’”* (Genesis 1:26)
* Jesus - *“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”* (Matthew 28:19)
* *“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”* (2 Corinthians 13:13)
* **The doctrine of the Trinity teaches that there is One God who is Present at all times in 3 different Persons – as Father God, the Son of God, and the Spirit of God.**
* **The Holy Spirit is GOD, and that fact is evidenced by the attributes given to the Him in the Scriptures.**
* **We’re told in the Bible that the Holy Spirit is: 1) Eternal (Hebrews 9:14), 2) All-powerful (Luke 1:35), 3) Everywhere at all times (Psalm 139:7), 4) All-knowing (1 Corinthians 2:10-11), 5) Called God (Acts 5:3-4, 2 Corinthians 3:18), 6) and The Creator (Genesis 1:2).**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT CONTINUES THE MINISTRY OF JESUS**

* *Jesus - “The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”* (John 14:26 NIV)
* *Jesus - "When the Counselor comes, the one I will send to you from the Father —the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me.”* (John 15:26)
* **The Holy Spirit came to do everything that Jesus did when He lived and ministered on Planet Earth - but instead of accomplishing those works through “one body” He accomplishes those works through many “bodies.”**
* Jesus - *““Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.”* (John 14:12)

**THE HOLY SPIRIT PARTICIPATES IN TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF CHRISTIANS**

* **Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would: 1) Be A Helper to Christians (John 14:16), 2) Be A Teacher of Christians (John 14:26), 3) Be A Revealer of truth (John 15:26), 4) Convict people about sin (John 16:8-11), 5) Explain the future (John 16:13-14), 6) Give direction (John 16:13) & 7) Empower Christians (Luke 24:49).**
* *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* (Acts 1:8)
* *“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”* (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)
* *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control.”* (Galatians 5:22-23)
* **When we allow the Holy Spirit to guide and empower us, we will live holy, healthy and happy lives.**

**\*CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION ON BACK\***

**CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

**UNDERSTANDING**

1. What does John 14:16-17 tell us about God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit?
* What does John 14:16-17 tell us about the Holy Spirit?
* What does Joh 16:7-8 say the Holy Spirit will accomplish?
* Based on the above Scriptures, and others, who has the Holy Spirit working in them?

**DIGGING DEEPER**

* What has been your understanding of the Holy Spirit prior to this study?
* Why should we avoid referring to the Holy Spirit as a “thing” rather than a “Person”?
* What is modalism and why is it a dangerous view of God? (Visit - **https://carm.org/heresies/modalism/** for additional understanding is needed)
* How has the Holy Spirit directly impacted your life? Give examples.
* What is your big takeaway from this study?

**Loving Outward:**

* Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
* Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
* Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?