

The Source
Core Group Discussion Guide
March 11, 2018

Message Overview:

In week 2 of our “Pivot” series, we will be examining the work of the Holy Spirit. We can do nothing of value in the Kingdom of God without empowerment of the Holy Spirit. So, what does it look like to move with the Spirit? How do we move with the Spirit? How do we come into alignment with God’s Spirit? One message can’t begin to answer in great depth many of those questions, but the hope is that our eyes will be opened and our spirits receptive to God’s movement in our lives.

Text:

- Sermon: John 16:5-15, Galatians 5:16-25
- Group Discussion: John 14:15-21

Questions for Discussion:

This Discussion is based on the group study of John 14:15-21. (Feel free to ask follow up questions about the message specifically or dive into this passage for more study of the Holy Spirit.)

1. Let’s read John 14:15-21 first. Throughout this passage, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as “He” or “Him” and not as an “it.” What does this tell us about the Holy Spirit? (The Holy Spirit is not an energy force or an impersonal power. He is not simply the “power of God.” He is a person just like Jesus is a person and God the Father is a person.)
2. What are some characteristics that are true of people that are not true of things? (People are alive(!). We have a free will, a moral conscience, feelings, the ability to communicate with and a desire to relate to others.)
3. What effect might this have on our interaction with the Holy Spirit?
4. From this passage, according to Jesus, what should we do if we love Him (v. 15 and v. 21)? What will God do if we love Him (v.16 and v.21)?
5. How do these verses show the connection between Scripture and the Holy Spirit’s movement in our lives?
6. In verse 16, Jesus told the disciples He would send them “another Counselor.” The Word for “Counselor” in the Greek is *paraclete* and means “someone who comes along side to help.” The word another implies “another of the same kind.” Can someone comment on the significance of this title.

Sometimes we wonder if God’s Spirit is at work in our lives. Perhaps it would be helpful to think about this set of questions:

- When have you experienced joy when circumstances should have made joy difficult?
- When have you experienced an ability to love when you should have found love difficult?
- When have you experienced an ability to forgive when it was difficult?
- When have you experienced peace in the middle of hardship?

Close in prayer – for more of God’s Spirit in our lives.