

2. Jesus has more to say about the Holy Spirit.

- Read John 15:26-27 & 16:7-15
- What does Jesus say the Holy Spirit will do when he comes?
- How will that help us as followers of Jesus?

3. This world is a spiritual battlefield and sometimes it can be hard to determine who to listen to and follow.

- Read 1 John 2:27 & 4:1-6
- When have you found it hard to hear the Holy Spirit's voice speaking into your life?
- When have you found yourself particularly open to the Spirit's voice? What's the difference?

#### WITH PRACTICE:

We are people who obey the Holy Spirit. In order to truly live in community and on mission, Jesus gave us the gifts of the Holy Spirit and peace. The following is a practice (from a book Disciples Making Disciples, Part 1) that will help you listen to and obey Holy Spirit promptings. It is something you can do every day, even multiple times a day.

1. **Untie the Sails (LISTEN):** Being led by the Spirit starts by confessing and surrendering. Take some time to "untie the sails" in confessing any known sin and also by yielding any self-serving motivations. Pray over your confessions.
2. **Raise the Sails (OBEY):** Just like a sailboat is powered by the wind, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal who he wants you to share your story with, to assist and help, or to connect with. Share this with a group member and ask for accountability to follow through.
3. Close your gathering by praying Romans 15:13 over everyone.

### For Further Reflection . . .

Watch the [Bible Project Video on Holy Spirit](#).

To learn more about the Holy Spirit in both the Old and New Testament, spend time study the following:

- Ezekiel 37:1-14 • 1 Corinthians 2:11-16
- Acts 2:1-13, 4:23-31, 6 (really the entire book of Acts)
- 1 Corinthians 12 • A word study on "Ruach" and "Pnuema"

## WEEK #6

# We Obey the Holy Spirit



# Leader's Corner

As we focus on our vision "Love My Community," we must understand where our strength and power rests. Zechariah 4:6 reminds us that "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts." Our best efforts and intentions will fail on their own. But there is one who is greater, one who Jesus gave as a gift to encourage and empower us. This week's resource focuses us on the following:

**Main Idea:** We are people who obey the Holy Spirit

**Main Practice:** Listen to and respond to the Holy Spirit

**Main Teaching:** John 14:15-27 – Become an increasing Spirit-led follower of Jesus.

Before your group gathers this week, prepare your own heart by creating space to listen to Jesus. Give yourself about 20-30 minutes. Ask The Holy Spirit to reveal to you things to be mindful of for your group. Start the gathering time in the following way:

- Take a few minutes and talk through logistics for the mission your group has chosen to serve.
- As you encounter questions or obstacles as a group, please let us know and we can help ([smallgroups@eastview.church](mailto:smallgroups@eastview.church))
- We are praying for your group.

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## As We Begin . . .

- Share something you are thankful for from this past week.
- Share about a time you sensed a holy "nudge" or a "push" from the Holy Spirit?

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## Love My Community . . .

### WITH PRAYER:

Have someone read this prayer over the group:

*"Holy Spirit, we need you to change us. Only through You can we truly worship.  
Holy Spirit, You are the one who brings us to a place where we can worship.  
You are the Spirit of Truth, the Spirit of Holiness, the Spirit of Life.  
We need Your wisdom, Your understanding as we seek to live this life.  
We need Your strength to help us do what You are asking us to do.  
Speak loudly and drown out the other voices calling us to conform to this world.  
Come, Holy Spirit, come, we ask for Your presence. Amen"*  
(from Forgotten God, Francis Chan)

### WITH PRINCIPLE:

*"Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives."*

Galatians 5:25 NLT

*"Revive us so we can call on your name once more."*

Psalms 80:18b AMP

Who could be better than Jesus? As church goes, we spend a lot of time focusing on God the Father and God the Son. However, there is one other whom Jesus himself asked his Father to send as a vibrant gift to believers. It's vitally important that each of us truly know this third person of the Trinity that Jesus so confidently said would be with us, in us, and even work through us in whatever situation we find ourselves in.

This week's resource certainly cannot cover all that we will need to embrace and understand about the Holy Spirit. Yet, it is important that we come to know the person of the Holy Spirit, not a working knowledge, but a hunger, a thirsting after, and ultimately a yielding to the Spirit. As you and I yield to the Holy Spirit, we will be transformed by His power, and prompted to see people and places around us in different ways.

It is this writer's hope that an unwavering desire to yield your life fully to the Holy Spirit will produce a fresh wind and fire in you that spurs you deeper into His grace, love, and power. Ultimately, I pray that the gifts of the Spirit will come to life in and through you.

If we are going to truly live in community and on mission, then we each must be filled with the Holy Spirit in ways we currently are not. In hopes that you and I are saturated, overcome by, and learn to obey the Holy Spirit, I offer the words of theologian Chuck Smith, "My prayer is that you come into a long and fruitful relationship with Him (Holy Spirit) – that you will come to depend upon Him for your guidance, for your help, for your strength, for your comfort, and for your power. I pray he will come closer to you than any person you know. May you be bathed in His glory, and may you yield to His influence as you allow Him to conform your life into the image of Jesus."

1. Read John 14:15-27 as a group in the ESV and Amplified Version.
  - Take note and discuss all the "I will" statements from Jesus. What is he trying to address with his followers? How do they encourage you?
  - How does Jesus introduce and describe the Holy Spirit? Why do you think he did so in this way?
  - Jesus also gives a gift of peace to his followers. How have you experienced this peace? Share a time when the Holy Spirit carried you through a difficult time.
  - How might the gift of peace and the power of the Holy Spirit guide you to live on mission?