

The Holy Spirit can be mysterious.

The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the **Spirit** of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. *Genesis 1:2*

And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit **descending** on him like a **dove**. *Mark 1:10*

The role of the Holy Spirit is to nudge us.

For all who are **led** by the Spirit of God are children of God. *Romans 8:14*

Acts 16:6-7

The Holy Spirit will nudge us toward truth.

“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will **guide** you into all **truth**.” *John 16:13*

“He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a **liar** and the father of lies.” *John 8:44*

Genesis 3:4-5

1. He uses the Word of God to guide us into truth.

“Sanctify them by the **truth**; your **word** is truth.” *John 17:17*

“Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. **Life** is not **measured** by how much you **own**.” *Luke 12:15*

2. He uses people to guide us into truth.

2 Timothy 4:2

...Husbands ought to love their wives as their **own bodies**. He who loves his wife loves **himself**. *Ephesians 5:28*

3. He will speak directly to you.

Your own ears will hear him. Right behind you a **voice** will say, “This is the way you should go,” whether to the right or to the left. *Isaiah 30:21*

The Spirit of God will never contradict the Word of God.

And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God... *Ephesians 4:30*

What truth is the Holy Spirit trying to lead you into?

Group Prep

In preparation for small group, read John 16:7-15 and answer the following discussion questions.

Introduction

How do you define the Holy Spirit? For many Christians, the Holy Spirit can be a mystery and difficult to define. But in John 16, Jesus explains how He sent the Holy Spirit to exercise a worldwide ministry. Today, the Holy Spirit illuminates the minds of people, helps us understand spiritual truth, and transforms us from the inside out. All over the world, the Holy Spirit is nudging Christians for the benefit of God’s kingdom and leading us to live out what Jesus calls the abundant life.

Discussion Questions

1. After hearing this weekend’s message and reading John 16:7-15, what is your take on the Holy Spirit? What is the Holy Spirit, how does it work, and what is His role in our lives?

2. One of the roles the Holy Spirit plays in a Christian’s life is to detour us from believing Satan’s lies. He does this by guiding us into the truth found in God’s Word. In what areas of your life have you experienced the tug-of-war between Satan’s lies and the truth the Holy Spirit is trying to lead you toward?

Below are three ways the Holy Spirit nudges us.

He uses God’s Word to guide us into truth. How do the teachings of Jesus and the leading of the Holy Spirit work together? What are you currently doing to better understand the teachings of Jesus, and what could you begin doing to better your understanding?

He uses people to guide us into truth. How do we know when someone’s counsel is in alignment with the Holy Spirit? How can we protect ourselves from accepting unwise counsel that isn’t aligned with the Holy Spirit? Who are some people you can trust to provide godly counsel and why?

He will speak directly to you. Read Mark 1:35 and Luke 5:16. Jesus found it necessary to spend time alone with God regularly. Why is that? How could this type of practice benefit you? Could you be more intentional in positioning yourself to feel the Holy Spirit’s nudge and how so?

3. What are the consequences of not allowing the Holy Spirit to lead the direction of your life, and what are the benefits of allowing the Holy Spirit to lead the direction of your life?

Action Step

4. If we want to foolproof our lives against the lies of Satan, we will position ourselves to feel the nudge of the Holy Spirit and allow Him to guide our lives. How do you plan to intentionally position yourself to feel the nudge of the Holy Spirit this coming week?

My action step is _____

_____.

I will encourage and pray for _____ to follow through, and their action step is _____

_____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I’m praying for _____

_____.

Outreach: Groups in Action

Emmanuel’s ministry partner, The Refuge, is having an open house later in November and needs help with deep cleaning, organizing, and possibly painting on October 13 and October 20 from 2:00–4:00pm. (1-2 small groups needed each Saturday.)

Come on Wednesday night from 6:00-9:00pm and help stock Emmanuel’s Greenwood Campus auditorium with connection cards for the weekend services. This is a need every week.

For more information about these opportunities, please contact Kerry Carmichael at kcarmichael@eclife.org.