



Chapter Two

Part 1 – Empowered by the Holy Spirit

Discussion Guide

The Holy Spirit gives you the power to live the good life. The Good News is that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for our sins, and He rose from the dead and is alive and well today. The good life is that we get to live with Jesus as our Friend and as our Savior and Lord. The good life means that we have the power to be witnesses. Take time this week to slow down and listen to and learn from the Holy Spirit.

Jump Start

1. When you think of the Holy Spirit, what picture, idea, or feelings come to mind? What is one question you have about the Holy Spirit you would like answered through this study?
2. **Read [Acts 2:1-12](#)**. What words, images or descriptions of Pentecost raise questions for you? What things encourage or confuse you?
3. **Read [Acts 1:5](#), [Acts 2:38](#), [1 Corinthians 12:13](#); [6:19-20](#), [Ezekiel 37:14](#), and [Ephesians 1:13-14](#)**. Does every follower of Christ have access to the Holy Spirit? What does it mean to be “baptized by the Holy Spirit”? Have you ever heard someone speaking (or maybe you spoke) in tongues? What was your response?
4. **Read [Acts 1:8](#), [John 14:16-17](#), and [26](#)**. What are some of the things the Holy Spirit will do for and with us? How does the Holy Spirit help comfort us and direct us? What specifically does **Acts 1:8** say He will empower us to do? Has there ever been a time where you were away of the presence of the Holy Spirit?
5. **Read [Romans 8:26-27](#) and [1 Corinthians 14:14-15](#)**. How does the Holy Spirit help us to pray? Do you struggle with knowing what to pray or learning how to pray? Is there a person in your life that encourages you to pray?
6. **Pray This Prayer:** Father, would you fill me with your Holy Spirit. By the power of Your Spirit, help me to be more aware, more sensitive to Your Presence. Help me to know You more. Reveal things in me that You desire to change. Reveal the areas of my life where You are trying to grow me. Father, guide me. Father, sometimes I am afraid. Would You send the Holy Spirit to comfort me? I want to dwell, rest and abide in You. Thank You for protecting me; thank You for the angels that You dispatch concerning me. I thank You for the Holy Spirit that is my Comforter and Helper. God, you are my refuge. God, fill me with Your power. I have everything I need because You are with me. I know You will not only use me to be a blessing and a leader in my family, but You will also show Yourself strong and help me to be a disciple maker. I know I am a disciple maker, commissioned and set free to share my story and the stories of others. I pray that in doing so, other people will come to know You and I will also know You more. Father, I thank You for the gift of the Spirit. I love you and I thank You for Your presence. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Deeper

This week we will begin studying Scripture in a new way. We will begin to read the Scripture and code it as we read. Why we are doing this? To slow down and become aware of what the Holy Spirit is teaching us as we read. The voice of the Holy Spirit will take faith to follow. Many of us had plans for this year, but God has a different far greater plan for our lives. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the plans that God has for you. Pray for awareness of His presence. There are also the **SOAP** questions to help guide you as well. (**S O A P** stands for **S**cripture **O**bservation **A**pplication **P**rayer.) There are lots of ways to study God's Word. The key is to just do it. As we spend time with God, we become more like Him.

CODING GUIDE:

(If you do not have these colors adjust to what you have and make a coding guide in your study notebook)

Yellow Highlighter: God is speaking personally to me.

Green Highlighter: Who I am to be or what I am to do.

Red Underline: Mind Blowing (something that stood out to you).

Black Circle: I do not understand this at all. HELP.

(Bring this up when you are in Life Group to discuss.)

7. **Scripture.** Read [Proverbs 19:21, Isaiah 55:8-9, James 4:14-15, 2 Peter 3:8-9, Ephesians 1:9-12.](#) What is the Holy Spirit saying to you as you read these passages?

Take time to read this passage and allow God to speak to you. Jot down anything that made you stop and pause or anything that you questioned. When you are done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you and write it out fully in your journal.

8. **Observe.** What is God saying to you in these verses? What overarching theme or promise did you see? What did the specific verse that you were drawn to teach you?

What do you think God is saying to you, personally and specifically, in these Scriptures? (You can even have a short prayer at this point, asking the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal Jesus to you. Remember that He promised to give us wisdom and reveal truth to us when we ask.)

9. **Application.** How will you apply what God showed you through these verses?

Personalize what you have read by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, a new promise, or correction in an area of your life. Write down how this Scripture applies to you today.

10. **Pray.** Pray about what you read in [Proverbs 19:21, Isaiah 55:8-9, James 4:14-15, 2 Peter 3:8-9, Ephesians 1:9-12](#) Pray about what God revealed to you in these verses.

This prayer can be as simple as asking God to help you use this Scripture, or even a prayer for a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so take time here! Be sure to listen to what God has to say! Now, write it out. Journaling your quiet time helps you to see what God is teaching you over time.