

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Week 1: The Goodness of Work

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Healthy groups grow through Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. This guide walks through the passage using observation, interpretation, and application. Use whatever serves your group best.

CONNECT

- What refreshes you when you feel emotionally or spiritually exhausted?
- Have you ever had a moment when you sensed God was breathing new life into a situation that seemed dry or hopeless?

INTRODUCTION

In Ezekiel 36, God speaks to a people who are exiled and defiled by sin. Yet even there, He promises not just forgiveness but transformation. He offers to cleanse them, give them a new heart, and put His own Spirit within them.

This week, we begin our series on the Holy Spirit—the powerful presence of God that brings life, renewal, and restoration. The same breath that gave life to Adam, and raised the dry bones in Ezekiel’s vision, is available to us today.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Ezekiel 36:16–32

- What is the root problem that led to Israel’s exile (vv. 16–21)?

- How does God respond to their sin (vv. 24–27)? What promises does He make?
- Why does God say He is acting “not for your sake” (v. 32)? What does this teach us about grace?
- What stands out about the personal nature of God’s promise—cleansing, new heart, indwelling Spirit?

Read: Genesis 2:7; Job 33:4; Ezekiel 37:1–14; John 20:21–22

- What do these passages reveal about the Holy Spirit’s role in giving and restoring life?
- How do creation, restoration, and re-creation all connect through the work of the Spirit?
- What parallels do you see between Jesus breathing on the disciples and the Spirit breathing life into dry bones?

APPLICATION

- Where in your life do you feel a need for renewal or “fresh breath”?
- Which of these steps do you most need to take this week?
 - Confess your need: ‘I need a new heart.’
 - Ask for His presence: ‘Come, Holy Spirit.’
 - Yield control: ‘Lead me into holiness.’
 - Create space: prayer, worship, and the Word.
- What would it look like to invite the Holy Spirit into your daily rhythms?

PRAYER

- Invite the Holy Spirit to bring life to weary places. Pray for spiritual renewal, courage, and strength.
- Ask the Spirit to empower your group to live faithfully and reflect Christ.
- Close with a shared prayer or moment of silent invitation: “Come, Holy Spirit. Breathe on us again.”