

# THE HOLY SPIRIT

## Week 2: The Gospel Ministry of The Holy Spirit

### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four crucial components for a group to maintain its health: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study the biblical passage in three steps: observation, interpretation, and application. As the group leader, you are free to use any part of this guide that can assist you in achieving this goal.

### CONNECT

- When was the last time you felt the Holy Spirit showed you something? What was it?
- Discuss some ways the Spirit has revealed to you God's love through Christ.
- Discuss some ways the Spirit has revealed to you God's righteous judgment on sin.

### INTRODUCTION

Chapters 14 and 16 of the Gospel of John both contain passages in which Jesus is discussing what we might call the ministry of the Holy Spirit—yet neither of these passages has much to do with the commonly cited Gifts of the Spirit or Fruit of the Spirit. Rather, they present two very divergent perspectives of one of the Holy Ghost's most important roles—as the **Revealer of God's love**. Take time, as you read these passages, to note the places Jesus uses verbs like teach, show, know, see, manifest, speak, remember, convict, declare. These will underscore the revelatory nature of the Spirit of God to the believer and to the world.

### OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

**Read:** John 14:15-26

- Jesus opens by stating that if his disciples love him, we will keep his commandments. From where do we receive the commandments of Jesus?
- How is it that any follower of Christ can be obedient to those commandments? What gracious gift has God given to the Church that she might obey her King?
- How does God's Spirit dwelling within the believer grow one in this experience of God's love and obedience?

**Read:** John 16:7-15

- What do we make of the confusing statement that it is to our advantage that Jesus departs? Why *must* Jesus depart and the Spirit be poured out?
- Jesus states that role of the Spirit to the world who does not know him is to convict concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. Why these three aims?
- In a fallen world, doubt, faithlessness, and deceit concerning God run rampant. How does the Spirit glorify Jesus in his testimony of what is to come?

### APPLICATION

- What are ways that you can give yourself over to the Spirit's leading in place of your own wisdom and understanding?
- What are ways that you can give yourself over to the Spirit's leading in place of your own autonomy and self-rule?
- What are ways that you can give yourself over to the Spirit's leading in place of your own goals and ambitions?

### PRAYER

- Spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to you where in your life you are missing the love of God in Jesus.