

Starter Question:

What made you smile in the last two weeks?

BIG IDEA:

The Spirit of God is essential for the life God offers us.

Summary:

In this season we are all confronted with the questions, "what do I really need, and what is essential in my life?" When everything is stripped away we realize the essentials we are to build our lives on are: the Grace of God; the Spirit of God; the Word of God; the People of God; the Mission of God.

This week we're focusing on the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit is the presence of God with us, the gift of Himself to us. God chose us to carry and release His Spirit in the world around us.

1. The Spirit of God lives in us.

The Spirit of God in us declares God is pleased with us, we're right with Him, and we're set apart by Him. (**Ephesians 1:13, 1 Corinthians 6:19**). When the Spirit of God comes to live in us, He changes us from the inside out, we don't have to change ourselves. The Holy Spirit changes our focus and awareness. The Holy Spirit in us is better than Jesus standing beside us (**John 16:7**).

Question 1

How do you acknowledge the Holy Spirit in your life?

2. The Spirit of God empowers us.

On earth, Jesus lived as a Spirit-filled man in right relationship with God empowered by the Holy Spirit, and He offers the same to us (**John 14:12, Acts 10:38**). The Holy Spirit fills us so we can walk in His character, which effortlessly blooms when we surrender to Him. The Holy Spirit fills us so we can walk in His power (**Acts 1:8**), to bring the kingdom of God to earth.

Question 2

What are some ways you can become aware of the Holy Spirit being with you and moving through you this week?

3. The Spirit of God fills us.

God promises He will pour out His Spirit on all His servants; young, old, men, women (**Acts 2:17-18**). God is pouring out His Spirit, all we have to do is take the lid off our lives and let Him flow in (**Ephesians 5:18**). The greatest privilege of our lives is that the person, the power, and the presence of the Spirit of God dwells in us.

Question 3

Take time as a group and be aware that the Spirit of God is with you. He has come with His gentleness and power to change you from the inside out. Thank Him for who He is and what He's done, and ask Him to fill you afresh.