

THE HOLY SPIRIT

GOD'S GOOD GIFT

WEEK 1

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday's message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with a small group or Bible class. This week we focused on THE GOODNESS OF THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. The Gospels remind us that Jesus lived by the power of the Spirit, and that he wants the same for us

1 What is the primary message you received about the Holy Spirit in the past?

2 Jesus knew what a gift the Holy Spirit was. He was conceived by the Spirit (Luke 1:35); he did ministry in the power of the Spirit (Acts 10:38); he was full of joy through the Spirit (Luke 10:21); he offered his life through the Spirit (Hebrews 9:14); he was raised from the dead by the Spirit (Romans 8:11); he gave his final instructions through the Spirit (Acts 1:2). If the Holy Spirit is so important to Jesus, why hasn't he been as important to his church?

3 Read John 16:5-7. How could the presence of the indwelling Spirit be better for us than having Christ among us in the flesh?

4 In what ways was/is Jesus expecting the Holy Spirit to help his disciples?

5 Most Christians can live quite successfully without the Holy Spirit. Given our talents and resources, we do not need any help to achieve a fairly comfortable lifestyle. So we often settle for a tepid brand of discipleship that demands little more of us than to be good citizens and pleasant neighbors. With that in mind, why is the Holy Spirit essential to radical discipleship? Why do so many Christians get by without the fellowship of the Spirit?

6 What makes you most nervous about growing in a relationship with the Holy Spirit? What makes you most excited?

ACTION STEP This week pray daily for God to lead you into a closer relationship with His Spirit. Ask for God to identify and remove any barriers keeping you from that.