



LIFE GROUP NOTES
For week commencing: 26/05/2024

Holy Spirit

The Person of the Holy Spirit

Life Group Activities

Use the Three Thirds structure for your gathering together.

Looking Back

- Mutual Care – How are you doing?

- Worship & Prayer
 - Worship
 - Pray
 - Communion

- Loving Accountability
 - How did you follow?
 - How did you fish? (Ask how many gospel shares in the last week)

- Vision Cast – Why are we meeting like this?
 - Talk about your vision for social events / outreach and how you will care and encourage one another.

Looking up

Discovery Bible Study The Person of the Holy Spirit

Discovery Bible Study Notes can be found below for reference.

- Read John 16:13-14.
- Follow the DBS notes below:
 - Can you summarise the teaching from this week?
 - Do you think that you can teach this to those you are discipling?
- How are you going to apply this teaching to your life?

Looking Forward

- Practice – Practice the Three Circles or your People Map
- Set Goals:
 - Use C.O.S.T.
 - Connect – How am I going to connect with God this week?
 - Obey – How am I going to be obedient this week?
 - Share – Who am I going to share the gospel with or pray with this week?
 - Teach – Who can I encourage with this message this week?
- Pray together for the filling of the Holy Spirit

Discovery Bible Study Notes for Reference

- Review last week's teaching – The coming of the Holy Spirit
 - See if your Life Group can summarise last week's teaching using the following headings:
 - The Garden of Eden
 - The Tabernacle
 - Solomon's Temple
 - Ezekiel's Temple
 - The Second Temple
 - Jesus and the Temple
 - The Church
 - The Eternal Temple
- The Person of the Holy Spirit
 - This week's teaching is to ensure that we see the Holy Spirit as a person, not a "force"
 - The idea that the Holy Spirit is a force rather than a person is a heresy dating back to at least the 4th century but it has survived to this day. Some claim that the Holy Spirit is God's "active force". They argue that when the Bible speaks of the Holy Spirit being "poured out" or "filling" someone, a person cannot be poured out or fill something. They argue that when the Bible speaks of the Holy Spirit in personal terms, it is using figurative language.
 - Those who argue this way have actually got it the wrong way round. The language of pouring out and filling is applied to subjects in the Bible that we have no doubt about their personality. David speaks of being "poured out like water" (Psalm 22:14). Paul speaks of being "poured out like a drink offering" (Philippians 2:17; 2 Timothy 4:6). As both David and Paul were real people we see that the language of "pouring out" is being used figuratively in these cases. How about the language of filling? In Jeremiah 23:24 God declares that He fills the heaven and the earth. This does not mean that God is a force. Ephesians 4:10 speaks of Jesus filling all things and we know that Jesus is not a force. So being "poured out" or "filling" something or someone does not mean that the Holy Spirit is not a person.
 - Personal language is applied to the Holy Spirit in different ways and in different contexts that make it impossible to conclude that these are just examples of personification of a force. The Bible also uses personal pronouns when speaking of the Holy Spirit. He is never referred to as an "it". See John 15:26; 16:13-14; Acts 10:19-20; 13:2 for examples.
 - Using the following verses note the personal attributes of the Holy Spirit
 - Isaiah 11:2; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 - Understanding
 - 1 Corinthians 12:11; John 3:8 - Will
 - Mark 13:11 - Speaking
 - Luke 2:26 - Revealing
 - John 16:13 - Guiding

- Luke 12:12 - Teaching
- John 15:26 - Bearing witness
- Romans 15:30 - Loving
- 1 Timothy 4:1 - Warning
- Acts 13:2 - Appointing people to office
- The Holy Spirit does these things because He is not a force, He is a person. It is really important that we understand this. We will enjoy Him the most when we recognise that He is a person and as a person we can and should have a relationship with Him. He is not some force that we tap into, He is a person.
- However, He is not just any person, the Holy Spirit is fully God.
- In the same way that God the Father is fully God and God the Son is fully God, the Holy Spirit is also fully God.
- Using the following verses see how the Bible confirms the Trinity:
 - Genesis 1:1-2, John 1:1-2
 - Matthew 3:16-17
 - Matthew 28:19-20
 - 2 Corinthians 3:17
 - Romans 8:9-11
 - 1 Corinthians 12:4-6
 - 2 Corinthians 13:14
- In Matthew 28:19 Jesus places the Holy Spirit as being equal with Himself and the Father. By including the Holy Spirit here Jesus is saying that the Holy Spirit is God. In Acts 5:3-4 Peter makes it clear that when Ananias and Sapphira lie to the Holy Spirit they are, in fact, lying to God. In Matthew 12:28-31 we see that the Holy Spirit can be blasphemed against. This again points to the fact that He is God. In Psalm 139:7-8 David declares the omnipresence of the Holy Spirit when he says, "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?". 1 Corinthians 2:10 declares the Holy Spirit's omniscience.
- Where would we stand if the Holy Spirit were not fully God?
- John 3:5-7 teaches about the Holy Spirit's role in our salvation. If the Holy Spirit is not God then how can we be sure of our salvation? How can He regenerate us, dwell in us and fill us? Unless He is fully God just as the Father and the Son are fully God what guarantees do we have that even if He tried to do such things that the Father and the Son would recognise His actions and relate to us accordingly?
- So for our salvation to be sure the Holy Spirit must be fully God.
- This week touches on the doctrine of Trinity but time and focus will not permit an in depth study of it. There is a Growing in God Doctrine video accessible via the church app that you can point the church to, which teaches on Trinity.

The 3Thirds Discipleship Model		
Look back	Look up	Look forward
<p>1. Mutual care: How are you doing?</p> <p>2. Worship: Praising God in a simple, relevant way.</p> <p>3. Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Follow:</i> How did you obey the lesson from last time? ◦ <i>Fish:</i> Did you pray with anyone who was in need? ◦ Did you share your story and/or Jesus' story? ◦ Did you find a person of peace? <p>4. Casting vision for reaching lost people and making disciples.</p>	<p>5. New lesson: Enough Biblical content to obey and pass it on.</p> <p>Use the Discovery Bible Study Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Read the Bible Story b. Ask them to re-tell the story in their own words c. Ask four questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What does this story tell us about God? ii. What does this story tell us about people? iii. Is there a command to obey or an example to follow or a promise to live by? iv. How does this apply to my life? 	<p>6. Practice the lesson until everyone is confident and competent to apply the learning. e.g. Retell your story, Jesus' story, or this week's story.</p> <p>7. Set goals</p> <p>Goals for personal growth, sharing the gospel, and training others.</p> <p>C.O.S.T. Connect Obey Share Teach</p> <p>8. Pray and Share Communion</p>
<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>