

# Prayers God Always Says Yes To - Week 1 June 6-7, 2020 - Tim Harlow

This week, Pastor Tim talks about praying for the energy and help of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

NOTE: We are sending this out before the services so you and your families can spend time watching service and discussing the Study Guide together! If you're looking for some virtual ways to connect with your Small Group, check out Zoom or Google Hangouts!

## **CELEBRATE**

At the beginning of your small group time, it's good to share about your week and share with each other how you're doing. So, spend some time, right now, connecting before jumping into the discussion questions. You can use the *Connect* section as a guide. If you're doing this Study Guide on your own, take a moment to focus your mind on God and what He might want you to hear today.

## **CONNECT**

1. Talk about a moment when you were "inspired" to do something. Where did that inspiration come from and how did you respond to it?

2. Talk about a time when you got into a home improvement project, car repair, etc. and you found the problem was more complicated than you initially thought. How did you handle the "thing beneath the thing"?

Before watching the <u>sermon</u>, or moving on in this study, take a minute to remember that God is always with you. Pray as a group for God to bless your conversation and open your eyes and hearts to what He wants you to hear.

#### **REFLECT**

Before moving forward in your study, remember the big picture of this week's teaching: God always answers our prayer for the Holy Spirit, who sets us apart and empowers us for everyday life.

**SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE**: Luke 11:11-13, John 16:13, Acts 1:4, 8, 2:1-5, 38-39; Romans 15:16, 2 Timothy 1:7

#### **RESPOND**

- 1. Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this week's message that resonated with you. What made it stick out to you?
- 2. Talk about the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the words "Holy Spirit." Where does that picture come from? How do you feel when that image or thought comes to mind?
- 3. Pastor Tim said that when we ask for and receive the Holy Spirit it sanctifies, reveals things to us, and inspires us. Talk about which of the three is most necessary for you right now. Which one is confusing or unclear as to how it would affect your life?
- 4. Read John 14:24-27. Read out loud and make a note of any words or phrases that stand out to you. This is part of Jesus' last words to his disciples before he was crucified.
- 5. Jesus says that to love him is to follow his teachings (John 14:24). Talk about the primary obstacles you see to following the teachings of Jesus in your own life. Which teaching of Jesus do you find hardest to follow?
- 6. The Spirit is said to "teach and remind" us of everything Jesus said. (14:26). Talk about how this addresses the challenges you listed above.
- 7. Living with by the Spirit is a way of life we have to learn to live, just like we have to learn to keep the teachings of Jesus. Since God always answers the prayer for the Spirit, give two or three things you are praying for now that would help you to follow Jesus' teachings today.

## **Takeaway**

In our "Training Time" guide, we give you readings from the Bible and directions for prayer. The best way to learn how to live by the Spirit by following the teachings of Jesus is to start a practice of reading the Bible and praying. You can follow this link to start a training plan and learn how to connect with others who are on the journey of becoming like Jesus as well.