

Journey Through Luke & Acts

Session 5 | What About the Holy Spirit?

Discussion Guide

- KEY THEME -

The Holy Spirit and what we're empowered to be and to do

- OPENING COMMUNITY BUILDER QUESTIONS -

Select one or more of the questions below to get your group discussion started.

1. If you could do anything for just one year of your life, what would it be?
2. What time period of history would you most like to visit?
3. What was your first experience with church that you can remember?

If you think your group needs a little bit more warming up before diving into the Bible passages for this week, try one of these community-building questions.

- When you need guidance or help in making a decision, who do you turn to first? Why that person?
- Imagine being in a country for three months where the people spoke a language other than your native language. How might you feel and what might you do if you suddenly heard a group of people speaking your language?

- ARRIVAL OF THE SPIRIT -
ACTS 1:1–9; 2:1–21

Study Questions

Read the Scripture passages referenced above aloud as a group twice.

1. What is your understanding of the Holy Spirit? What's confusing? What's mysterious?

- WATCH THE VIDEO -

2. What do you see in the world that needs a power beyond human capability?
3. What do you see in your own life that needs a power beyond your capability?
4. Why do you think it mattered for the people who had come from "every nation under heaven" to hear their own language being spoken by the Galileans who had been filled with the Holy Spirit?
5. What impact do you think it had on the message being spoken that the people heard it in their own language?

- LED BY THE SPIRIT -
ACTS 2:42–47; 4:23–36

Study Questions

Read the Scripture passages referenced above aloud as a group two or three times each, and include multiple readers. Then select a few of the questions below to discuss.

1. What characterized the early church according to the two Scripture passages we just read?
 - Where do you see examples of whatever you identified above in the church today?

- What is challenging about these verses when we apply them to the church today?
2. In your view, what are the characteristics of the church today?
 3. What does the Holy Spirit lead us to do? What does the Holy Spirit lead us away from?
 4. Share an experience in which you felt led by the Holy Spirit. How did being led in that way make you feel? Why did you conclude that it was a leading of the Holy Spirit?
 5. How can we know whether the Holy Spirit is leading us, or whether we are being led by our own thoughts and convictions?
 6. How do you sense the Holy Spirit leading you in this season of your life?

- EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT -
ACTS 5:12–32

Study Questions

Read the Scripture passage referenced above aloud as a group two or three times, and include multiple readers. Then select a few of the questions below to discuss.

1. Where do you see the Holy Spirit at work in the passage we just read?
2. What stands out to you in the story about the apostles' experience in the public jail?
3. Share a time you have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in your life. How did you know it was the Holy Spirit's power at work?
4. What dream or passion has God placed in you that seems too big or too hard for you to live out? What do you need?

- CLOSING THOUGHTS -

As your time comes to an end, remind your group members when you're meeting next, and to read the sixth week of devotionals from the *Journey* book (or online) in preparation for that meeting. Close your time together by praying for whatever difficulties or needs were shared during your gathering.