October, 2026

# THE HOLY SPIRIT
## DISCUSSION GUIDE

# THE HOLY SPIRIT

**10/07/2026**

## MAIN IDEA

The Holy Spirit is God's presence within us, His power working through us, and His purification transforming us to become more like Jesus. Jesus knew we needed the Holy Spirit, which is why He promised His disciples power to live out their calling (Acts 1:8). The Bible describes the Holy Spirit through visual imagery: Wind, Fire, and Water. Wind reminds us that God is always with us; even when we don't feel His presence, we can trust His promise never to leave us (John 14:16–17). Fire represents the power of the Holy Spirit, empowering us to live courageously, love others, serve, and share Jesus (2 Timothy 1:7). Water represents His purification, as He cleanses our hearts, convicts us of sin, and transforms us from the inside out (Ezekiel 36:25–27). The Holy Spirit doesn't condemn us or simply give us spiritual experiences; He leads us to Jesus and helps us become more like Him. Through the Holy Spirit, God is with us, working through us, and transforming us into who He created us to be.

## KEY POINTS / VERSES

John 16:5-15 NLT But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and not one of you is asking where I am going. 6 Instead, you grieve because of what I've told you. 7 But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. 9 The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in me. 10 Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. 11 Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged.12 "There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. 14 He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.'

### 3 WAYS THE BIBLE DESCRIBES THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. **WIND - The Presence of God**
2. **FIRE - The Power of God**
3. **WATER - The Purification of God**

# HOW DO I RECOGNIZE THE HOLY SPIRIT? 10/14/26

## MAIN IDEA

The Holy Spirit is our helper that helps us understand who God is, what his word says, and guides us to live more like Jesus. But how do we know when he is speaking to us? How do we recognize his voice? Through scripture, prayer, Godly wisdom, and the work He does in our hearts we can learn to discern His direction! Not every thought or feeling comes from God, so we must learn to filter what we believe we are hearing through God's word + character. As we grow in our relationship with Him, the Holy Spirit helps us recognize when we're moving away from God's truth and gives us the strength to walk in obedience.

## KEY POINTS / VERSES

**John 14:26 NIV** - The Father will send the Holy Spirit in Jesus's name to teach believers all things and remind them of everything Jesus said.

**How do we recognize the voice of the Holy Spirit?**

- Does it agree with God's word? 1 John 4:1
- Does it point me towards Jesus? John 16:13-14
- Does it help me walk in God's Character? Galatians 5:22-23

**TAKE ATTENDANCE ON THE CHURCH CENTER APP (ADD NEW STUDENTS)**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you hear someone say, "God told me..." what do you think? Does that idea feel exciting, confusing, or uncomfortable?

2. Read John 14:26 What does Jesus say the Holy Spirit does for us?

3. Why is it important to test what we believe we're hearing from God instead of automatically assuming every feeling is from God?

4. How can I "test" if what I'm feeling is from God?

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. What's one area of your life where you need God's guidance right now?

2. What does the word of God say about that? **(encourage students to take some time to look up and find a verse that speaks to the answer to the question above)**

**Weekly challenge:** Each day, spend 5 minutes reading Scripture and asking, "Holy Spirit, what do You want me to understand or put into practice today?" Write down one thing you can obey.

## WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DO THROUGH ME?

**10/21/2026**

## MAIN IDEA

The Holy Spirit doesn't want to just work inside of us… he also wants to work THROUGH us to make a difference in the lives of others. He gives each of us believers gifts to serve and build others up. The Holy Spirit gives different gifts to different people, but these gifts are meant to benefit others.Some examples from Scripture include serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, showing mercy, and exercising faith (Romans 12:6–8; 1 Corinthians 12:4–11). Our value isn't found in comparing our gifts or abilities to someone else's, but in faithfully allowing God to use us wherever He has placed us. Through the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to represent Jesus in our homes, schools, friendships, and everyday lives.

## KEY POINTS / VERSES

***Acts 1:8 NLT*** *- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

***1 Corinthians 12:4-7 NLT*** *- There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.*

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who is someone who has made a positive difference in your life? What did they do that impacted you?
2. When you hear the phrase “God can use me,” what comes to mind? Does it excite you or make you nervous?
3. **Read 1 Corinthians 12:4–7** Why do you think God gives different gifts to different people?
4. **Read Acts 1:8** | As a Middle/High student, what can it look like to receive “power” from the Holy Spirit, to be a “witness” towards others?

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. Is there something holding you back from allowing God to use you—fear, insecurity, comparison, or something else?
2. What is one practical way you could serve someone or represent Jesus this week without seeking recognition?

***(Have a couple students share out loud what they wrote down)***