

Preaching to the Choir - The Spirit

John 1:19-24; Acts 1:1-8

Icebreaker: How did you practice BLESS this week?

Discussion: For group discussion to be fruitful and engaging for everyone in your group, make sure that your discussion groups are not larger than 4 people. If possible, break up into groups of 2 or 3.

Larger Group: (5 minutes)

- Welcome everyone
- Introduce the direction for the evening.
 - Read John 16:7, 13-14, the starting place for this discussion is that Jesus wants us to have His Spirit who will lead us into truth and glorify Jesus!
 - Our goal is to be immersed in the Spirit of Christ and keep ourselves in the love of God!
 - "This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing."-- Acts 2:32-33
- Prepare to break into smaller groups

Smaller Groups (20-25 minutes) Give the following instructions and break into small groups (2-3 people).

Have someone read Acts 1:4, 8. Jesus reminds us that he is the one who baptizes us in His Spirit! We need the Holy Spirit poured upon us to have the power we need to bear witness to Him!

- When did you first experience the Holy Spirit in your life?
- How are you currently experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- How does being filled with the Spirit help you bear witness to others about Christ?

Have someone read John 16:7, 13-14. We are reminded that it was necessary for Jesus to be crucified, risen and ascended so that we all could experience His presence by the Spirit! The Spirit leads us and reminds us of Truth!

- What does it mean to you that you have God's Spirit within you?
- What are some ways that the Spirit has either led you into, or reminded you of truth?
- How is the Spirit at work in your life to bring glory to Jesus?
- How can we encourage one another to be continually filled with the Spirit?

Larger Group:

Return to larger group to give summary of your discussion in smaller groups (5-10 minutes)

How does acknowledging your limitations, vulnerabilities and weaknesses help you communicate the gospel to your friends and family?

Allow time to pray for the lost, end with B.L.E.S.S. (10-15 minutes)

Where are group members in the B.L.E.S.S. process? Model for them how to answer briefly, for example:

“I’m praying for _____”.

“I have been having good conversations with _____”. “I’m having lunch with _____
_____ on
_____ (day of the week).”

Closing prayer - (2-5-minutes)