

The Pastor's Bible Study

An interactive study of the Gospel of John¹

Week 20 ~ The Holy Spirit in the Gospel of John

Personal Study Time:

(Use the following suggestions in your personal Bible study time this week to prepare for our class discussion next Saturday.)

Day 1: Please read 1:29-36; 3:1-21, 31-36; 4:7-29; 6:60-71; 7:37-39 and 20:19-23 and then answer the following questions:

- Write out a paragraph for each of the above passages in which you describe what each passage is saying about the Holy Spirit. Some of the passages may yield much more information than others.
- Is there a common thread that runs through all of these passages?

Day 2: Please read 1:29-36; 3:1-21, 31-36; 4:7-29; 6:60-71; 7:37-39 and 20:19-23 and then answer the following questions:

- Write out a paragraph or two for each passage describing the setting in which a mention of the Spirit took place and the character of the audience in each case.
- In which setting is the role of the Spirit most clearly outlined? Does Jesus at times seem to be hiding the truth as much as revealing it? How did the character of the audience affect the way in which the Spirit was described?

Day 3: Please read John 13-17 giving particular attention to 14:16, 17; 14:26, 27; 15:26, 27; 16:7-11 and 16:13-15. Then answer the following questions.

- Has a person with major spiritual influence in your life ever died or moved away? What happened to you spiritually when that took place? Were you able to replace that source of spiritual strength with a new relationship or spiritual growth of your own? How would you suggest people should prepare for the eventual loss of some of the spiritual influencers in their lives?

¹ Much of this study is quoted and/or adapted from Jon Paulien and George R. Knight, *John: Jesus Gives Life to a New Generation*, The Abundant Life Bible Amplifier (Boise, Idaho: Pacific Press, 1995).

Day 4: Please review John 13-17 giving particular attention to 14:16, 17; 14:26, 27; 15:26, 27; 16:7-11 and 16:13-15. Then answer the following questions:

- Write out five paragraphs in which you describe what each of the above passages is saying about the Holy Spirit. List the ideas that are mentioned in more than one passage.
- What are the common threads that run through all of these passages?

Day 5: Please review John 13-17 giving particular attention to 14:16, 17; 14:26, 27; 15:26, 27; 16:7-11 and 16:13-15. Then answer the following questions:

- Make a list of all the titles that are used for the Holy Spirit in these passages and also in the others studied on day one and 2. In a sentence or two write out the meaning of each of these titles as far as you can determine them from the context.
- In a short paragraph describe how you understand the Spirit's operation in relation to sin, righteousness, and judgment (16:7-11). How would you define each term? Why does Jesus have to go away before these things can move into operation?

Day 6: Please read John chapters 14-16 and then answer the following questions:

- To what degree have you been aware of the Holy Spirit's active involvement in your life? What difference do you think the material in John could make in people's lives today if it were taken seriously? Do you sometimes feel like the disciples in the upper room, abandoned by their strongest link to God?
- What methods has the Spirit used in your life to bring you to an awareness of your own defects of character? To teach you lessons about life? To help you understand the Scriptures?

