



From The Beginning – Week 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Overview

Welcome to the first message of the new series entitled, *Entheos: God's Spirit, Your Life*. Today, we will focus on the Holy Spirit from the beginning.

Discussion Questions

The Holy Spirit is both *with you* and *within you*. When we remember that the Holy Spirit dwells within us, we will not feel so isolated or discouraged.

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” (1 Corinthians 6:19)

- How does knowing God's Spirit lives within you bring you comfort?
- Why is it important to remember that we have the Holy Spirit living in us?

Roles of the Holy Spirit in the Lives of Believers

The Holy Spirit is an integral part of our lives as believers in Christ. Here are just a few of the many roles He plays in our lives:

1. He gives us power.
Ephesians 3:16 tells us: **“that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,”** The Holy Spirit gives us the power we need to live like Jesus and to make a difference for others with our lives.
2. He purifies our hearts.
Hebrews 9:14 shows us: **“how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”** The Holy Spirit cleanses us so that we can live with a clear conscience.
3. He reveals truth to us.
John 16:13 explains: **“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”** The Holy Spirit reveals the truth about God and life to us.

4. He guides and directs us.

Romans 8:26-27 tells us **“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”** Even when we don’t know the words to pray, the Holy Spirit will guide and direct us and act as an intercessor to God for us.

- Give an example of how you’ve seen the Holy Spirit in one of these roles.

The Holy Spirit and the Beginning of Mankind

God has always been three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was first mentioned in Genesis 1:2 **“The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”** God as the Holy Spirit has been there from the beginning, and He’s here with and within us today.

“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...’” (Genesis 1:26) This Scripture is a clear picture of the Trinity interacting and then executing the will of God on the earth.

- How does remembering the Holy Spirit is always with and within us empower us throughout challenging seasons?

The Holy Spirit’s Work through Prophets, Priests, and Kings

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was reserved for a select group of people: prophets, priests, and kings. However, there was a prophecy that the infilling of the Holy Spirit would one day extend to every believer. We see this in **Joel 2:28-29: “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”**

- Who is eligible to receive the pouring out of the Holy Spirit today?
- What benefits can every believer receive as a result of being filled with the Holy Spirit?

Life Challenge

When you feel overwhelmed, isolated, or alone this week, remember that the Holy Spirit is with you and within you. Write out three scriptures that tell us the Holy Spirit is our helper, comfort, and guide. Commit these scriptures to memory, and say them out loud any time you feel discouraged.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for all that You do for us. Remind us that Your power through Your Holy Spirit lives within us. Fill us with Your love and power. Open our hearts to always let Your Spirit lead and guide us. Pray for the specific needs of the group.