



Belief: What we believe **10-Apr: Holy Spirit**

Series Summary: Many view doctrine as something that is only important for pastors. Nothing could be further from the truth. What we believe matters? This is why Paul told young Timothy to watch his doctrine closely (1 Tim 4:16)

Big Idea/Question: The Holy Spirit is a who not a what. A who that indwells in and empowers every believer.

GET THEM TALKING

What did Pastor Russell say that stuck out to you?

What are you still uncertain about?

Would you feel confident explaining who the Holy Spirit is to a friend? If not, what is still unclear?

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

(Empowered by the Holy Spirit)

Romans 8:11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

What is Paul saying in this passage?

Leader Note: Paul is clearly stating that the Holy Spirit empowers us, not with just a little bit of power. No! The Holy Spirit empowers every believer with the same power that rose Jesus from the grave. Think about that! You are not powerless as a believer in Jesus Christ.

The question is then what does the Holy Spirit empower us to do?

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Based on this passage, what does the Holy Spirit empower us to do?

Leader Note: The Holy Spirit empowers believers to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

For Further Study: If you would like your group can read through **Acts 2:1-13**. In this passage, the Holy Spirit empowered the early church to share the Gospel with those around them who spoke a different language than them.

Galatians 5:16-17 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17** For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

Based on this passage, what does the Holy Spirit empower us to do?

Leader Note: The Holy Spirit is constantly at work in us to make us more like Jesus. This is what is known as the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to not “gratify the flesh”, disobey God as they once did. What is key to see here is that the power of the Holy Spirit, not just our own willpower, is the key to getting rid of our sinful habits and patterns.

Part of how the Holy Spirit helps us have victory over sinful habits in our lives is by convicting us of our sin. What areas of your life do you feel that the Holy Spirit is convincing you to change?

Can we ever lose the Holy Spirit? No. But that does not mean that we can not grieve the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:29-32 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may

benefit those who listen. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. **32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

How do we grieve the Holy Spirit?

Leader Note: We grieve the Holy Spirit when we ignore the leading of the Spirit. For example, we feel convicted of a certain sin, especially one listed above, but rather than act on that conviction we ignore it. That is grieving the Holy Spirit.

Based on the passage above, what do you need to start doing? What do you need to stop doing?