**The Spirit of Truth**

**The Word**

Read together excerpts from John 14-16 (14:15-17, 14:25-26, 15:26-27, 16:7-8, 16:12-15)

**The Big Idea**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth, and he has an intimate connection with God’s Word. The Holy Spirit is the author of Scripture, one of his primary roles is to bring the truths of Scripture alive in our hearts and minds.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. On Sunday, we discussed several passages linking the Spirit of God intimately with the Word of God (see especially point II below). What stood out to you in that, and what questions are raised in your mind from that?

2. How do you react to the comment made on Sunday: “The living God doesn’t need a book to talk to his kids.”

3. Consider the chart on a transactional reading vs. a Spiritual reading of Scripture. What stands out to you about that, and how does your own experience of reading Scripture intersect with those ideas?

4. As you consider your relationship with the Word of God, what is one thing that could make your experience of the Word more meaningful in this new year?

**Digging Deeper: Sermon Outline**

I. John 14-16

A. Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as “The Spirit of truth” (14:17, 15:26, 16:13)

B. His role is to lead us in truth

-He will teach you all things

-He will remind you of everything I have said to you

-He will testify about me

-He will convict the world of sin and righteousness and judgment

-He will guide you into all the truth

-He will take what is mine and make it known to you

C. Jesus was an external guide to truth, and the Spirit would be an internal guide to truth

D. One of the greatest fulfillments of Jesus’ promises regarding the Spirit is the creation of the New Testament.

II. The Spirit and Scripture

A. 2 Timothy 3:16: All Scripture is “God breathed”

B. 2 Peter 1:20-21: People spoke from God as they were carried along by the Spirit

C. Hebrews 3:7: What Scripture says, the Spirit says

D. Hebrews 4:12: The Word of God is living and active because the living Spirit breathes in and through it

E. 1 Corinthians 2:13-15: The Spirit helps us discern and embrace the truths of Scripture

III. Stories of being transformed by the Spirit through the Word

IV. Concluding Questions

A. What does it mean to be a Spirit filled person?

1. Sometimes we separate being Bible people from being Spirit people, but really we should see those as deeply connected

2. The early church consisted of people who were passionate about the Scriptures AND open to the Spirit moving in their daily lives

3. Let’s be a community that both studies the Scriptures deeply AND is open to the work of the Spirit in our lives through various means (promptings, other people, experiences, etc.)

B. How are we coming to the Word of God as Spirit-filled people?

1. Do we have a regular time immersing ourselves in the Word?

2. What posture do we bring to our time in the word

3. A transactional reading vs. a Spiritual reading of the Word

**Transactiona**l **Spiritual**

-Read for information & application -Read to encounter God

-The Word is the object -The Word is the subject

You are the subject You are the object

-Analytical -Receptive

-Impersonal -Intimate

-Move through content -Unhurried