

WEEK 3: BEING FILLED WITH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

KEY TEXT

Romans 8:26–27

SET-UP

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave Jesus His power to do miracles. He is also the same Spirit that you received the day you professed faith in Jesus as your Savior and Lord. He searches the heart and convicts the world of sin and of God's righteousness. He empowers the believer to act in faith and bring glory and honor to God. It is also the Spirit that will one day raise you from the dead when Christ returns to earth. If it is by Jesus' work on the cross that we are saved from death and have eternal life, then it is by the Spirit's indwelling that we have the ability to live as Jesus lived on earth and be united with Him in His Resurrection. Here are several aspects of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer:

1. He is the Spirit of Truth, and as you read Scripture, pray, and listen to sermons, He affirms in your heart the truth of who Jesus is (see John 16:13).
2. He is the counselor who brings us peace, wisdom, and conviction of sin and righteousness (see John 14:26–28).
3. He prays on our behalf when we don't know what to pray for or how to pray (see Romans 8:26–27).

VIDEO

Being Filled with the Holy Spirit

PRAYER PROMPTS

A Prayer for the Filling of the Holy Spirit

As a group, pray this prayer aloud.

“Jesus, fill me today with Your Holy Spirit so that I can hear what You want me to hear, say what You want me to say, and do what You want me to do, for our friendship and Your glory. Amen.”

The Challenge: For seven days pray this simple prayer every morning, then continue into three–four minutes of prayer. Using a pocket journal or cell phone, keep notes on what you heard from the Holy Spirit each day, and jot down how that influenced what you did. Did you hear from Him during prayer, when reading Scripture, or through what someone said to you? There are many ways in which the Holy Spirit speaks. Try to keep in tune with His voice and then come back the following week to share with one another the life-giving nature of following Jesus.

Repeat the process regularly.