

"The Holy Spirit our Guide"

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier
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INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Life Group Lesson Objective: To understand and learn to personally experience the guiding of the Holy Spirit.

Life Group Leader preparation:

In today's world we have mentors, we have coaches, teachers, managers, guides who help us maneuver through almost every area of our lives. Money Managers, Life Coaches, Career Counselors. We pay money for experts to guide us in practically every area of our lives. We have phone apps to map us in the right direction, apps for weight loss, exercise, etc.

- Proverbs 15:22 – Without a counselor purposes are disappointed, but in the multitude of counsellors they are established. KJV
- Plans fail without good advice, but they succeed with the advice of many others. NCV

Webster's dictionary defines Guide: one that leads or directs another's way. One that accompanies another for protection, guidance, or as a courtesy

Jesus said, “*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*” John 16:13 KJV

Allow the Holy Spirit to guide and teach you as you go deeper in prayer, meditation and studying the word of God. He will guide you in your personal decisions, money matters, relationships, etc. Even who or what can help you in the everyday affairs of your life.

But once we have been born again, in order to grow up and become mature, we need to be led by the Holy Spirit regularly. It will become a way of life.

WEEK #1: Led by the Holy Spirit

Discussion Question: Define “being led by the Holy Spirit”

The New Testament says, *‘For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God’* (Rom. 8:14).

- In the Old Testament only the Kings, Priests and Prophets were “anointed” to be in those offices...the men and women in those offices heard from God and they spoke God’s messages to the people. Today in the New Testament we (the sons of God) are led by the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God. – (How you can be Led by the Holy Spirit by Kenneth Hagin)

The Holy Spirit leads us by what is written in the scriptures.

- We know: that all things work together for our good to them that love God, to them who are “the called according to his purpose (His design and purpose) – Rom 8:28
- We also know, Nay in all these things we are more than conquerors – Rom 8:37
- We know: The Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost - Rom 5:5
- We know: Whoever keeps God’s word, the love of God is perfected in him – I John 1:5

Paul said to Timothy: “consider what I say; and the Lord will give you understanding in all things”.

1. “2 Tim 2:15 – **Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”
2. I Tim 4:15 – **Meditate** upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting will appear to all.
 - Be diligent
 - Give yourself

The Holy Spirit leads us through the God’s word.

Let’s be honest – Discussion: If studying and meditating the Word causes you to rightly divide the word of truth...have you ever wrongly divided the word of truth...what were the consequences?

WEEK #2: Expect to be led by the Holy Spirit

Discussion Question: How is faith involved when being led by the Holy Spirit.

The bible says: “faith comes by hearing” Romans 10:17

“without faith it’s impossible to please God” Hebrews 11:6

“faith without works is dead” James 2:20...

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When we say we believe the word of God, then we [should] also act on the word of God. Could it be that our victory (in any area) is held up because as a son of God we are not listening or being led by the Holy Spirit.

- As we act on the “written word” of God, we are training our “spirit, soul, and body” to be led by the Holy Spirit...Jesus said He (the Holy Spirit) only speaks what he hears. I gain confidence in hearing and thereby acting on the word.
- As we spend time in prayer and praying in tongues; we are training ourselves to hear and be led by the Holy Spirit.
- Being a doer of the Word...not just a hearer: is developing my hearing skills to the Holy Spirit - Obedience

Obedying the word of God by faith, even when we don't feel like it, or don't want to...we do it by faith; (believing it's God's word not man's word). The benefit is that I get comfortable doing and training and developing my own ability to be led by the Holy Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit leads us into obedience when we act on the Word
 - When we become familiar with the written word, it becomes easy to recognize the voice of the Holy Spirit
 - John 15:13 – “However when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth....
- Romans 8:14 – Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
- John 1:12 – For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
- "And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

Let's be honest – Discussion: Give a personal example of how you purposefully had to build YOUR FAITH to hear from the Holy Spirit?

WEEK #3: Receiving the guidance of the Holy Spirit

Discussion Question: Where and How is the Holy Spirit guiding you during this time in your life? Marriage, Ministry, Business, Education, Health; what does your future look like?

Paul defends the gospel by sharing, “I received my message from no human source, and no one taught me. Instead I received by direct revelation from Jesus Christ”. Gal 1:12 NLT

- to reveal His son in me...I conferred not with flesh and blood. – Gal 1:16 KJV

God will use others to help and guide us, which also helps us know the voice of the Holy Spirit

I Cor 1:9 – But as it is written, Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered the heart of man, the **things which God hath prepared** for them that love him.

- Deut 29:29 ...the secret things that are revealed belong unto us
- Gal 2:2 I went up by revelation

Romans 8:14, 16 For as many as are led by the spirit of God they are the Sons of God

- The *Spirit Himself bears witness* with our spirit that we are children of God
 - It's an inward witness (a knowing on the inside)
 - Learning to listen to the “inward witness”
- I Cor 14 – But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them because they are *spiritually discerned*.
- 2 Cor 6:18 – But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

Let's teach our children to be led by the Holy Spirit, he is their guide also...

Let's be honest – Discussion: When did you first recognize that “inward witness”, or “still small voice”?

Week #4 – I will send you another comforter

Group Discussion Questions: Which voice do you hear? (yours, Holy Spirit, devil)

- Be renewed in the spirit of your mind – Ephesians 4:23

Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice” they will not follow a stranger, for they do not hear the voice of a stranger. John 10:1-10

John 14:16 – Jesus said he will send another comforter, that he will abide with you forever. Jesus was leaving, but he said he would “not leave us comfortless”.

John 14:26 – But the comforter which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name... **he shall teach you all things**, and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said to you...

- Paul told Timothy God has not given **US** a spirit of fear, but **OF POWER**, and **OF LOVE** and **OF A SOUND MIND**.
- The Comforter guides us out of fear, unbelief, sickness and disease; out of depression, low self-esteem. Doubtful thinking?

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- The Comforter helps us make the right decisions.... even restores us when we make wrong decisions. He guides us into all **TRUTH**.

John 16:13 (Amp) – He will guide you into the whole, full truth; He only speaks what he hears from the Father. He will announce and declare things that are to come (in the future). Whatever he says: will honor and glorify the Father and Jesus Christ the Lord.

Let's be honest - Discussion: Set your mind on things above – Col 3:2; How is the the Holy Spirit guiding you concerning your thinking?