

ROOTED IN THE SPIRIT

Message 4: Waking up to the Spirit

May 4, 2025

GROUP GUIDE

This guide is designed to help you grow in your relationship with God and develop meaningful, lasting relationships with others. Get together with friends, or visit brookwoodchurch.org/groups to build some new relationships. *Let's grow stronger together!*

INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE

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2. Pray
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*Without the Holy Spirit, we are
simply ships without wind.*

Charles Spurgeon

CONNECT

Here are some questions to get the conversation rolling. Feel free to use any or all of these.

- What stood out to you from the devotional or your Bible reading this week?
- What impressions come to your mind when you think about the Holy Spirit?
- Describe a time you felt or sensed God's presence.

PRAY

Spend a few minutes in prayer, drawing your attention toward God. Consider these prayer points as you invite God to lead and guide you.

- Dear Lord, I pray you'd help me hear your voice above the noise.
- Help me be more sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
- With full surrender, I pray you'd break through any obstacles that keep me at a distance from you.
- I pray your work in my life would become a testimony to my friends and family about who you are. I pray you'd deepen my love and care for the people you've placed in my life.
- May the people of Brookwood (you might name specific people) become more aware of your Spirit.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

John 16:7-15 (NLT)

⁷ But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. ⁹ The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in Me. ¹⁰ Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see Me no more. ¹¹ Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged.

¹² "There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future. ¹⁴ He will bring me glory by telling you whatever He receives from Me. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is Mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever He receives from Me.'

EXPLORE AND DISCUSS

1. In what ways was it to the disciples' advantage that Jesus would go away and the Spirit of God would come?
2. The word *advocate* is sometimes translated *counselor*, *helper* or *comforter*. It's someone who is summoned, called to one's side. Called to one's aid. Someone who defends. When have you experienced the Holy Spirit in one of these ways?

3. What words would you use to describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit—distant or intimate, cautious or close? Other words?

4. In verses 8-11 Jesus outlines the ministry of the Spirit to the world. According to these verses, what specific conviction does the Spirit bring to those who hear the message of Christ?

5. Describe a time you sensed the Spirit's conviction.

6. Why is it important to know the enemy has already been judged (vs. 11)?

7. According to verses 12-15, how would you describe the Spirit's ministry to Jesus' followers?

8. How have you sensed the Spirit leading you into truth (vs. 13)?

9. Describe a time you sensed God saying something to you but you chose to ignore Him.

10. How do you sense the Holy Spirit working in your life?

11. Read Romans 13:11 and Ephesians 5:15. What does it mean to be spiritually awake?

12. How can you become more sensitive (awake, alive, alert) to the Spirit?

FURTHER STUDY

What do you learn about the Holy Spirit from the following verses? Which words, phrases or concepts are most significant to you?

- John 14:15-18
- John 15:26-27
- Acts 1:8
- Romans 8:14-17
- Romans 8:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 2:4-5
- Galatians 5:16-17

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Pause and ask the Spirit what He wants to say to you. Then spend a few minutes quietly listening for His voice.
2. What's one way you can apply this week's lesson in your life?

A PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Take a walk. Allow this time to help you become more aware of the Holy Spirit, not just when you're sitting quietly, but also as you're moving throughout the day.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

One of the best ways to hear God throughout the day is to memorize Scripture. God often brings His Word back to mind at just the right time! Here's a verse to memorize based on this week's theme:

...“Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Ephesians 5:14 (NIV)