

The Holy Spirit

Goal:

This Core plan is designed to help broach fundamental ideas about who the Holy Spirit is as well as what he does. It cannot be within the scope of this core to completely address all the questions surrounding the Holy Spirit but it should point students towards their own study and experience of him.

Some Tips:

Don't allow this discussion to become one about the Trinity as that is much larger in scope (that would best be addressed in a one on one conversation and could include your reading outside resources together). Keep the topic on the Holy Spirit. For Cores that are primarily composed of non-Christians, you should plan on adjusting questions accordingly.

Getting Personal (every person in Core should answer these):

- What do you think of when you consider the Holy Spirit?
- What's one question you have about the Spirit?

Study and Discussion:

John 14:15-17, 26

"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you... But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

- Why do you think Jesus calls the Spirit "Advocate"?
- What does this passage suggest about the nature of the Spirit? (Person? Force? Thing? Etc.)
- What do you think Jesus meant by "he lives with you and will be in you"?
- What role should the Spirit be playing in our lives? Do you feel like he plays that role in yours?

Prayer:

Break up into pairs and discuss one thing you want to do in order to understand or experience the Spirit more in your life. Pray for one another about that one thing.

Go:

Read Romans 8:1-17 and 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 this week on your own. Meet with the person you prayed with to ask how the one thing they wanted to do is going and to discuss the Romans and Corinthians reading.