

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

WHAT IF I HALLOWED GOD'S NAME? PLEASE DON'T GRIEVE

Ephesians 4:30

Pastor Miles McPherson – November 16, 2014

Today we're looking at what the Scripture says about the Holy Spirit. The Old Testament name for the Holy Spirit is Ruach Elohim. As application today and throughout the coming week, you'll be praying the AWCIPA prayer model to Ruach Elohim. Our true identity is found in Jesus and our power to live is found in the Holy Spirit.

MEMORY VERSES

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Share about a time when you felt God was asking you to do something, but you felt inadequate or ill equipped for the task.
- How can the Holy Spirit help us overcome such feelings of inadequacy?

STUDY QUESTIONS

The Holy Spirit, like Jesus, is co-equal and co-eternal with God and yet, distinct from the other two persons of the Trinity in His work. Though we may feel inadequate to be used by God for His kingdom, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to indwell believers for the express purpose of empowering us to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). Today we will see how, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can find confidence to be used by God for His kingdom and glory.

→ READ JOHN 14:15-17

- What comes to mind when you think of the Holy Spirit?
- Who is the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do (see also John 14:26, 15:26, and 16:10)?



The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity that indwells followers of Jesus and is the presence and power of God in their lives. The Holy Spirit helps us understand Jesus and remember His teaching (John 14:26). The Spirit bears witness to Jesus (John 15:26) and will convict the world of sin, righteousness and God's judgment (John 16:10).

- When Jesus told the disciples that He would send “another,” He used the word that meant another of the same kind. The counselor will be like Jesus Himself. In what ways is the Holy Spirit like Jesus?
- How is the Holy Spirit our “helper”ⁱ (v. 16)? In what ways does the Spirit help us in our walk with Christ?

The Holy Spirit is not an impersonal force or power, but a person. The Holy Spirit is eternally God sent from the Father, by the Son to indwell believers as their counselor, guide, and friend.

→ **Read John 16:4-11**

- Jesus wanted His disciples to know He was leaving – why did he teach them about the Holy Spirit in that context?ⁱⁱ
- Have you ever experienced the Holy Spirit convicting you of sin? What do you feel like when the Spirit's conviction came upon you?
- How might knowing we have the Holy Spirit give us confidence as we face temptation?

Further study on the Holy Spirit: John 14:18-26

WRAP IT UP

Pastor Miles said that a quick response to the Holy Spirit reflects great faith. Sometimes when the Spirit prompts us, we resist and rationalize why we shouldn't do what he asks.

- How can you develop greater responsiveness and less resistance this week?
- How ready are you to be put in uncomfortable situations because you follow the Holy Spirit? (such as approaching someone to pray for them...)



TAKE IT HOME!

Use the AWCIPA prayer guide throughout the week to worship and allow God the Holy Spirit to intercede through you:

AWCIPA: A guide, not a formula, to focused and powerful prayer.

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Matthew 6:9

A: Admiration and Praise; or Appreciate with praise.

Give honor to the King of the Kingdom. Psalm 9:1

Ruach Elohim, I praise You for _____.

I thank You for _____.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10

W: Ask for Thy Will to be done.

Pray to know the Kingdom agenda. Matthew 26

Ruach Elohim, may Thy Will be done in (my relationships, career, health...) _____

Give us this day our daily bread. Matthew 6:11

C: Pray for Communion with God.

Pray for Kingdom food. Psalm 51:10-11, Psalm 16:11

Dear Ruach Elohim, please bless me with your presence and the spiritual
_____ (strength, wisdom, vision, faith) to faithfully obey you today.

And forgive our debts, As we forgive our debtors. Matthew 6:12

I: Intercede for other people.

Pray to have Kingdom of God relationships. Matthew 5:44

Ruach Elohim, please cleanse my heart of _____.

Ruach Elohim, please cleanse my heart of bitterness, anger, jealousy toward
_____.

Lord, please draw _____ (friends and enemies) close to you.

And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13a

P: Petition for power.

Pray to exercise Kingdom of Yahweh Elohim power. Ephesians 6:10-13, 1 Corinthians 10:13



Lord, please grant me the power and authority to _____
(overcome sin or temptation, heal someone, exercise courage and faith).

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. Matthew 6:13b

A: Admiration and Praise; or Appreciate with praise.

Pray for the eternal glory of the King. Psalm 119:164

Ruach Elohim, I praise and give Your glory for _____.

ⁱ The Greek word for “helper” in verse 16 is “Paracletos,” and it is used to describe an advocate or a

ⁱⁱ Jesus wanted the disciples to be prepared for His departure. He knew that His time was growing short, but the disciples did not understand that Jesus would die or depart from them. They did not ask where Jesus was going because they were afraid. Jesus was talking about persecution that would come upon them; they were scared for the future and did not want to lose their teacher. Without a guide, the disciples would have been lost. They needed direction.

