



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

"We Believe in the Holy Spirit"

**Preached by Pastor Brady Boyd
11 May 2025**

"We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets."

F R O M T H E N I C E N E C R E E D

Summary

Have someone from your group read the following summary aloud.

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own.

"Heavenly Father, thank you for bringing us together today. As we gather to learn more about the Holy Spirit, we ask that you open our hearts and minds to your presence.

"We recognize that the Holy Spirit is our Comforter, Counselor, and Guide—connecting us to the resurrected Christ and uniting us as your church. Help us to become more aware of your Spirit's presence in our daily lives. Teach us to rely not on our own strength but on the guidance and empowerment that comes from you.

"As we delve into our discussion today, may we do so with humility and a genuine desire to grow. Open our minds to understand, our hearts to receive, and our spirits to respond to what you are teaching us. Let this time together deepen our relationship with you and with one another. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen."

Getting Going

Allow time for each group member to answer the following questions as you begin your group time.

What symbol or image comes to mind when you think of the Holy Spirit, and why?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. How do you typically recognize the Holy Spirit's voice in your life?
2. What barriers might prevent us from being fully open to the Holy Spirit's work?
3. How does understanding the Holy Spirit as God (part of the Trinity) change how we relate to him?
4. How can we make the Holy Spirit's voice more "exclusive" in our lives, as Pastor Brady described?
5. What areas of your life presently need the peace that the Holy Spirit brings?
6. How can we practically welcome the Holy Spirit's presence more in our daily lives?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your everyday life.

This week, start each day with the simple prayer "Come, Holy Spirit" before getting out of bed. Make a conscious effort to pause throughout the day to listen for his voice and guidance before making decisions or responding to situations.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

Which of these points will you carry with you this week?

- The Holy Spirit is the giver of life and essential for a living church.
- The Holy Spirit is God, equal with the Father and Son in the Trinity.
- The Holy Spirit speaks to us primarily through Scripture and reminds us of truth.
- Making the Holy Spirit's voice exclusive in our lives leads to peace and guidance.
- The majority of our problems can be solved by sitting still and listening to the Holy Spirit.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close your time in prayer.

"Father God, thank you for this time we've spent together, diving into the mystery and beauty of your Holy Spirit. As we've talked and listened, we've been reminded of how essential the Spirit is in connecting us to Jesus and bringing us together as your church.

"While we admit that understanding the Holy Spirit can be challenging, we're grateful that your Spirit is actively present in our lives—comforting us, guiding us, and empowering us each day.

"As we go from here, help us to stay open to the Spirit's nudges. Teach us to recognize your voice amid the noise and to respond with trust and obedience. May the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—be evident in our lives, drawing others to you.

"With Pentecost approaching, prepare our hearts to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. Renew in us the fire of your presence. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."

Key Passage | John 14:16-17, 26 ESV

These verses were highlighted during this week's sermon and appear here for your reference.

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you...

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

Verses for Further Study

- John 6:63
- 2 Timothy 3:16
- Genesis 1:2

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