



The Holy Spirit

XA 101 One On One Resource

The purpose of this study is to help your student come to a better understanding of the Holy Spirit and His role in interacting with us. This is geared more towards His personality, interaction with us, and the Fruits of Spirit, not towards the Gifts of the Spirit and defining each one (that should be a separate 1 on 1 or Life Group time, because you don't want to overload them with knowledge or not have time to ask questions about the Holy Spirit's nature or purpose).

Important Note:

There is a lot of Scripture, so try and be familiar with the passages so it can go faster. You may need to continue the discussion into a second week if the student has a lot of questions or needs more time to digest the information.

Discussion Questions:

1. When is the first time that we hear about the Holy Spirit in the Bible?
 - a. In the Creation story.
2. Read Genesis 1:2. What is the Holy Spirit's role in Creation?
 - a. He was the one who carried out what the Father spoke.
 - b. *This little Hebrew lesson is important, because it shows the character of the Holy Spirit as a "momma bird" who protects, nurtures, keeps us safe, and is crucial for growth. This is a powerful image that sets a great tone for your 1 on 1.*
 - c. The Hebrew word for "Spirit" is *Ruach Elohim* which means "wind or breath of God." This ruach could mean a wind over the earth, but the word for "hovering" in this verse implies a physical thing looking over another thing, like a momma bird over its eggs. So the "wind" is a physical thing. That is why it gets translated to Spirit of God.
3. What is the role of a "momma bird"?
 - a. Protects, nurtures, gives life, keeps safe, trains to fly, crucial for growth and life. Make sure your student grasps this analogy, because this connection is vital in how the Holy Spirit works with us.
4. **Transition: "Let's look at how Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit!"**
5. Read John 16:7: How does Jesus talk about the Holy Spirit here?
 - a. It is to the advantage of the disciples to have the Holy Spirit more than Jesus.
6. Why do you think that Jesus would say this?
 - a. Because the role of the Holy Spirit is to guide, counsel, and protect everyone. Once Jesus dies, the Holy Spirit can go from coming on people only in special circumstances in the Old Testament to residing in all of us all the time.
 - b. Reference or read John 16:7-15, John 14:26, and John 15:26 to show the Holy Spirit as Counselor, Guide, Teacher, Comforter, Convictor.
7. What does the Holy Spirit look like after Jesus ascends into heaven?
 - a. Gifts of the Spirit: Acts 1-2, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (reference, but try to focus on the other two roles).
 - b. Fruit of the Spirit: Read Galatians 5:22-23. Talk about how if someone is a Christian then these things now reside in us all the time. As we allow more of the Holy Spirit to grow in us, they will blossom in us like fruit that all people can see! They will be our nature and we will become more Christ-like.
 - c. Read John 15:26: *"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me."* The Holy Spirit is the one who keeps us following Christ and points us back to Christ in how we are supposed to live.

Conclusion:

End by discussing how the role of the Holy Spirit from Creation has always been to be a "momma bird" who guides us to God the Father, protects us from straying from Him, directs us in how to act, and grows the Fruit of the Spirit in us so we become Christ-like. Talk about the way that we think about the challenge of following Christ and obeying God on a daily basis.