



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE



Vapor

DISCUSSION ►

FOR REFLECTION

What questions do you still have about the Holy Spirit?

Would you like to have the gift of the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?

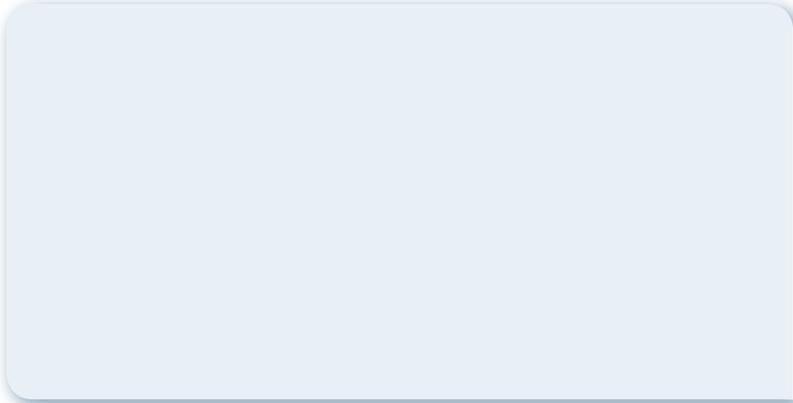
What do you conclude about God's desire for us to have the Holy Spirit as you read these verses?

*Would any of you who are fathers
give your son a snake when he asks for a fish?
Or would you give him a scorpion
when he asks for an egg?
As bad as you are, you know how
to give good things to your children.
How much more, then, will the Father in heaven
give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! —LUKE 11:11–13, GNB*

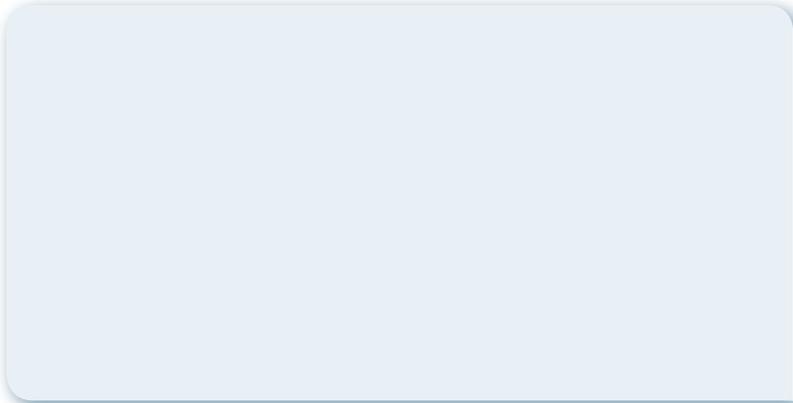
*Therefore do not be foolish,
but understand what the Lord's will is.
Do not get drunk on wine,
which leads to debauchery.
Instead, be filled with the Spirit. —EPHESIANS 5:17, 18*



What difference do you think the gift of the Spirit could make in your life?



How will you respond to the promise and the command Jesus makes in the passages on page 41?



The DVD encouraged us to fill ourselves with the Word of God in order to be filled with the Spirit. To connect with the Spirit, it helps to have some knowledge of the Spirit. Take time this week to meditate on these Bible passages about the Spirit. Underline or circle ideas you want to remember, ask about, or test in your own life.

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Jesus replied, "I tell you for certain that you must be born from above before you can see God's kingdom!" Nicodemus asked, "How can a grown man ever be born a second time?" Jesus answered: I tell you for certain that before you can get into God's kingdom, you must be born not only by water, but by the Spirit. Humans give life to their children. Yet only God's Spirit can change you into a child of God. Don't be surprised when I say that you must be born from above. Only God's Spirit gives new life. The Spirit is like the wind that blows wherever it wants to. You can hear the wind, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. —JOHN 3:3–8, CEV

On the last day, the climax of the holidays, Jesus shouted to the crowds, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. For the Scriptures declare that rivers of living water shall flow from the inmost being of anyone who believes in me." [He was speaking of the Holy Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him; but the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet returned to his glory in heaven.] —JOHN 7:37–39, LB

"I still have many things to tell you, but you can't handle them now. But when the Friend comes, the Spirit of the Truth, he will take you by the hand and guide you into all the truth there is. He won't draw attention to himself, but will make sense out of what is about to happen and, indeed, out of all that I have done and said. He will honor me; he will take from me and deliver it to you." —JOHN 16:12–14, THE MESSAGE

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to 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. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. —JOHN 14:16–18

I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. But when the Father sends the Counselor as my representative—and by the Counselor I mean the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I myself have told you. I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid. —JOHN 14:25–27, NLT

When the people heard this [the truth about Jesus], they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." —ACTS 2:37–39

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.
—ROMANS 8:16

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our distress. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. —ROMANS 8:26, 27, NLT

You are no longer ruled by your desires, but by God's Spirit, who lives in you. People who don't have the Spirit of Christ in them don't belong to him. But Christ lives in you. So you are alive because God has accepted you, even though your bodies must die because of your sins. Yet God raised Jesus to life! God's Spirit now lives in you, and he will raise you to life by his Spirit. —ROMANS 8:9–11, CEV

God's Spirit makes us loving, happy, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled. There is no law against behaving in any of these ways. And because we belong to Christ Jesus, we have killed our selfish feelings and desires. God's Spirit has given us life, and so we should follow the Spirit. —GALATIANS 5:22–25, CEV

Don't forget to be thinking about whom you might like to invite to the H2O party. Or even better, ask the Spirit to bring to mind those you might ask and then give you the courage to ask them.