

## Hope Community Church

### Week 5 - Statement Of Faith: The Holy Spirit

#### Learning Objectives

- Help Small Groups better understand the role of the Holy Spirit in their personal lives.
- Explore the work of the Spirit in the church – how he advocates, teaches truth, and convicts – and how that changes how we should live.

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#### Pray for your time together!

*Leader's note: This is not intended to be an exhaustive study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Instead, we'd like to focus on how Hope Community Church can, through the work of the Spirit, engage in making fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.*



Growing up, what were you taught about the Holy Spirit, if at all?

#### The Holy Spirit

Statement Of Faith: The Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, empower, and gift all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells all who believe in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide. John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26,27; 16:9-14; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19; Gal. 5:22-26

*Leader's note: Before you jump into the study, show the following video to get a broad overview of the work and person of the Spirit throughout the narrative of Scripture.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNNZO9i1Gjc>



According to the video, what is the role of the Holy Spirit in God's story?

*Possible Answers: To bring life and order. Transforming and empowering people so they can love God and others.*

#### Read Out Loud: John 14:16-17 (NIV)

<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—

<sup>17</sup> 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.

**Read Out Loud: John 15:26-27 (NIV)**

<sup>26</sup> “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. <sup>27</sup> And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

**Read Out Loud: John 16:7-14 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because people do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

<sup>12</sup> “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. <sup>13</sup> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.



From these passages, what roles do we see the Spirit fulfilling in the lives of believers?

*Possible Answers: Advocate (15:26), Helper (14:16), Spirit of Truth (14:16), Conviction (16:8-11)*

**Role Out**

**Read Out Loud:** The Holy Spirit is active in believers’ lives in many ways, but let’s take a moment to focus on just a few of His roles.

*As Helper:*



What does it mean for the Holy Spirit to be “The Helper”?

*Possible Answers (Share the Gospel, be more like Jesus, stand firm in your faith)*



Knowing that the Holy Spirit is the helper, looking back over your Christian walk, where/how have you seen the Holy Spirit help you?

*As an Advocate:*



What does an advocate do? Do you have any examples where you or someone else has advocated for something important?



With this in mind, how does the Holy Spirit advocate for you?

*Possible Answers: He always has our best interests in mind, He is God, He is omniscient (knows everything), He is selfless, etc.*

*As a Spirit of Truth:*

? How has the Spirit of truth helped you wrestle with a difficult biblical truth? (Reference: Isaiah 55:8)

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.”*

*Possible Answers: That God sends people to hell, Complementarianism, Purgatory, Historicity of the Bible, etc.*

? How have you seen the Holy Spirit push you to trust in God more fully?

*Possible Answers: The Spirit testified to the truth of the Bible, The Spirit kept bringing the question to my mind, etc.*

*As a Spirit of Conviction:*

? What does it mean for the Holy Spirit to “convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment”?

*Possible Answers: The Spirit convicts people about their sin and then points them to The Father. The Spirit helps us see the world as God sees it. The Spirit brings us to the understanding of the gospel so we can become devoted Christians.*

? How have you seen the Spirit work in the lives of non-Christians?

*Possible Answers: The Holy Spirit worked in a friend’s heart, God prepared a family member to receive the gospel, etc.*

### **For Discussion and Accountability**

? The Holy Spirit empowers us to be more Christ-like, something that we can’t do by ourselves. In what ways is the Spirit moving you this week and what ways is He empowering you to change?