

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

1. Some people have had bad experiences when it comes to the Holy Spirit. Sometimes the Spirit has been used as an excuse to justify certain behaviors. Let's be sensible to what emotions and thoughts this topic might bring to some people.
2. On the other hand, some people have not heard or learned about the Holy Spirit. This is an excellent opportunity to reaffirm that the Holy Spirit lives in you if you are a Christ-follower.
3. Jesus' time on this earth was coming to an end and he tells his disciples to comfort them that the father would send the Holy Spirit. Try to take people through an exercise of hearing Jesus' words for the very first time. Jesus has been with them. They have seen him do miracles, speak with wisdom and love on people. And now he is telling them that the mission is theirs, that it was for their good that he was going away because then the Father would send the Holy Spirit. Help people realize how game-changing that is for our lives.
4. As we talk about the Spirit, let's remember that the Spirit is a person, not an it or a human, but a person. The Holy Spirit is God. This might be confusing for some or new information. But we have to remind ourselves that the Spirit is part of the trinity, and in so, the Spirit is God, just as Jesus and the Father are God.
5. Galatians tells us to live in step with the Spirit. We want to keep in step with the Spirit in the same way that we would want to keep stepping if we were on a treadmill. Only by getting on the treadmill, can we keep in step with the Spirit. We don't have to spring and in fact we might need to start off slow, but the fact that we're moving forward is what counts.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND QUOTES

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? communitychristian.org/baptism/
4. Who have you been able to B.L.E.S.S.?

What God's people are promised is power; the word used here is dynamis, from which we get 'dynamite'. We need that power, just as Jesus' first followers did, if we or they are to be his witnesses, to find ways of announcing to the world that he is already its rightful king and lord." -Tom Wright