

SPIRITUAL GROWTH Part 3

The Role of the Holy Spirit in Spiritual Growth

Selected Passages from the Gospel of John

MAIN POINT: The Holy Spirit is the One who orchestrate our spiritual growth.

Remember how we are defining success in spiritual growth. "Any growth of any person, towards following Jesus more fully."

CORE TRUTH – We cannot manufacture Spiritual Growth. The One who changes us is the Holy Spirit.

Author A.W. Tozer wrote, *"The idea of the Spirit by the average church member is so vague as to be nearly non-existent."*

Discussion Question: If someone asked you "Who is the Holy Spirit?" how would you answer them?

READ TOGETHER: John 14:15-20, John 14: 25-26, John 16:7-15

Discussion Question: How would you sum up this passages in your own words as it relates to the Holy Spirit?

Key Insight: *"The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity Who executes the will of God in the world of men. It is the Holy Spirit who applies the salvation that Jesus Christ secured through his death on the cross. It is the Holy Spirit who convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgment. It is the Holy Spirit who empowers the church to live a lifestyle pleasing to God, endowing it with special gifts that equip believers to accomplish distinct ministries, planned beforehand by God the Father." From the Community Bible Statement of Faith*

Discussion Questions:

- Why can it be easy to overlook the importance of the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives?
- John 14:17 says that the Holy Spirit *"dwells in you and will be with you."* Why is that an important truth to remember in your journey towards spiritual growth?
- Read John 16:7. Why do you think it would be an "advantage" for Jesus to leave?
- Based on John 16:7-15, list out the ways that Holy Spirit is active in our spiritual growth. How do those things help you understand His role in your life?

SHARE: How that you have seen Who and what the Holy Spirit does, spend a few minutes sharing how you have experienced His work in your life.

Question: How can we as a community help each other recognize and embrace the work of the Holy Spirit in each other's lives?

Closing: Spend time praying for the group to have a greater love and sensitivity to the work of the Holy Spirit.