

Discussion Guide for Living Hope: Part 9

1. Read Acts 1:1-11 and review the sermon outline.

What parts of Sunday's lesson did you find helpful, enlightening, unclear or troubling?

2. Truth: When Jesus ascended, He asked the Father to send the Holy Spirit to help us live the Christian life and to help us in the task of representing Christ in this world.

Using many colorful terms, Scripture describes two ways the Holy Spirit effects believers.

Intimacy with the Spirit: The Bible describes an initial intimacy created when He comes to live inside of us.

(baptism, born again, sealed, indwelling)

Control by the Spirit: The Bible also describes an ongoing relationship of being controlled by the Holy Spirit.

(filling, leading, coming up, empowerment)

Read John 14:16-21

-How does Jesus describe the new intimacy that Christians will experience with the coming of the Holy Spirit in v.17?

-What are the results of the Holy Spirit coming to live in the disciples according to this passage?

-Would you say these promises are about intimacy or control?

-How should the Holy Spirit's presence make us feel about God (The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) relationally?

-How have you experienced this assurance of God's provision, love, and presence recently?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

-What is the primary effect of the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

-How does the baptism of the Holy Spirit effect our relationship with Christ?

-How does the baptism of the Holy Spirit effect our relationship with one another?