



# GROUPS AT CROSS POINT

## BREAKING THE ICE

Is there one food condiment that makes all food better?  
What makes one restaurant better than another?

## MAIN CONTENT

This week, we started a new series called “Better This Way”. When Jesus left this world, He promised something better was coming along. The better thing He was speaking of is the Holy Spirit.

1. What impacted you the most from the sermon this week?

We pick up the sermon this week in John chapters 14-16. At that moment, the disciples weren't sure what to think about Jesus leaving. They couldn't think of anything better than spending time with Jesus. Jesus knew that as long as He was living on the earth, everyone would look to Him to do the work of God. But when He was gone, the disciples would realize that they had the same power through the Holy Spirit that Jesus had to do God's work.

2. When you hear “Holy Spirit” what do you think of?
3. What do you know about the Holy Spirit?

Facts about the Holy Spirit:

- The Holy Spirit is God.
- The Holy Spirit is a person not an “it”.
- The Holy Spirit is a part of the Trinity.

The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity that includes God the Father and God the Son (Jesus). Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit while He walked this earth. He needed the power of the Holy Spirit to do the work God had called Him to.



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When we live our lives dependent on the Holy Spirit, it allows us to utilize God's strength and power instead of our own like Jesus did.

In Genesis 1:26-27, we read that God is relational. Just as God wants a relationship with us, so does the Holy Spirit. Jesus had a relationship with the Holy Spirit that guided Him throughout his ministry.

Being full of the Holy Spirit allows you to be used by God and not be striving and doing things on your own. You can't be full of the spirit and yourself at the same time. When you are dependent on yourself, things will eventually fail.

4. Have you ever felt like you were striving to do the right thing, and were then let down because you screwed up? Explain.

Jesus knew He needed the Holy Spirit to do the work God called Him to. He knew He couldn't do it on His own. When the Spirit empowered Jesus to do the work God called Him to, it allowed Jesus to give God the glory.

Just as Jesus gave God the glory for all the things He had done, the Holy Spirit points back to Jesus. The three - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit - all work together to do the work for His kingdom. They all point to each other, working seamlessly together to reach those who need to hear about Jesus and to help the lost and hurting have the hope that only comes from Him.

5. How would you explain seeing the Holy Spirit, Jesus and God working together in your life?

The Bible talks about 3 roles of the Holy Spirit: a teacher, a counselor, and a guide.

6. Which one of these roles have you actively seen the Holy Spirit work in your life?

## Read John 14: 26

When we utilize the Holy Spirit's role as a teacher, we are constantly taught and reminded of what God says in the Scriptures on how to live our lives.

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For us to be teachable and to be reminded of what God says, we need to engage with Him through Scripture. That engagement consists of reading the Scriptures and asking God to show us what we need to know from it. When we ask God to teach us what we need to know, it allows space for the Holy Spirit to come in and show us truths that we can stand on in our lives.

7. Describe a time where the Holy Spirit reminded you about a Scripture or a sermon illustration that helped you through a tough time.

### Read John 14:16

The Holy Spirit acts as a counselor or an advocate for us. He goes before us and brings peace and comfort to situations that can be difficult.

When we listen and pray for peace, it's the Spirit that comes in to provide that peace and comfort in our lives. It allows us to continue doing the hard things God has called us to do, knowing He is with us on the journey.

8. Describe a situation where you felt God's peace (Holy Spirit) lead you through a tough circumstance.

### Read John 16:13

The Holy Spirit is our guide. When the Holy Spirit guides us, it is congruent with what the Bible says. It allows us to go back to God's words and follow His plan for us.

9. Describe a time where the Holy Spirit guided you through a situation.

When we let the Holy Spirit teach us, counsel us and guide us, our lives are filled with the things God has for us.

When we let the Holy Spirit work through us, we have the opportunity to continue to tell others about what God has done for us through his Son Jesus, and that our love comes from the one who set us free through His ultimate sacrifice of love.

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## CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank You for the Holy Spirit. Thank You that your Holy Spirit is available to us if we just ask for more of Him in our lives. We ask that your Holy Spirit come into our lives to teach, counsel and guide us. Help us be aware of when the Spirit is moving in our lives and when the Spirit is guiding us. We thank You for what your Holy Spirit wants to do in our lives and through us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## ACTION STEP

This week, be aware when you see, hear or feel the Holy Spirit in your life. Tell a friend or group member about where you see evidence of the Holy Spirit moving in your life. Be open to what the Holy Spirit wants to do in your life this week and pray and ask God to help you engage with the Holy Spirit.

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