



# AWAKEN

Week 3

## BREAKING THE ICE

What have you learned from God in your prayer and quiet time in the last few weeks of the Awaken series?

If you could tell anyone about the benefits of prayer and fasting what would you tell them?

## MAIN CONTENT

This week, Pastor Kevin had Worship Pastor Dwan Hill join him as they taught about the Holy Spirit. The message started with the scripture John 16:7.

1. What have been your perceptions of the Holy Spirit? How have those perceptions changed over time?

Pastor Dwan started this week's message sharing a brief history of the Holy Spirit in the Bible. The Holy Spirit came to abide in man when Adam was created. God breathed the Spirit in Adam, but when Adam sinned he broke communion with God and the Spirit. Through sacrifice and striving, men tried to get back to communion with God but couldn't due to their sin. It was when Jesus came to the earth and died for our sins that the Holy Spirit came to abide in us so we could have communion with Him.

2. How do you see the Holy Spirit abiding in you? How do you feel the Spirit in your life?

The Holy Spirit abides in us when we are followers of Christ. The Holy Spirit knows what you need when you need it. He is our comforter. When things don't go as planned or we find ourselves feeling broken, the Holy Spirit comes to comfort us and remind us that we are loved, cared for and known.

3. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit as a comforter in your life?

The Holy Spirit comforts us when things aren't going as anticipated. As the Holy Spirit comforts us, He also convicts us to draw us closer to Jesus. The Holy Spirit doesn't convict us to make us feel bad about ourselves, but rather uses conviction to reconcile us closer to God. God uses His Spirit to help us abide in Him, not push us away from Him.

The gentle conviction from the Holy Spirit leads us to repentance and brings us closer to God. The Holy Spirit's conviction is never condemning. Condemnation is never from God.

4. How have you experienced gentle conviction from the Holy Spirit? How has that led you closer to Him?

Read John 16:15

When we are in communion with the Holy Spirit, repenting from our convictions and turning from the things that keep us from God, we can't help but talk about how God is moving in our lives. We read scripture in the Bible about how God's people shared about what He did in their lives. Another word for sharing about what God is doing in our lives is called giving a testimony. When we gather together we testify about what God is doing in our lives with each other. It helps our faith grow and helps others know more about Jesus when we gather together and testify about what God has done and is currently doing.

An example of giving testimony is when we sing songs in worship. When we sing songs of How good God is and how thankful we are for Him we are testifying about Him.

5. What is a testimony of how God has changed your life that you would like to share with the group?

6. What is your favorite worship song? How does that worship testify to what God has done in your life?

Another aspect of the Holy Spirit is that He is the spirit of truth. The Holy Spirit reveals truth about Jesus. There are many voices we can listen to in this world but the Holy Spirit's voice is the truth we should listen to.

7. How have you seen truth from the Holy Spirit help guide your life?

Read John 17:21

The Holy Spirit brings truth to all followers of Jesus. The truth is, we are all sinners and we can't get away from sin. Sin brings division. But when we repent of our sins, the Holy Spirit brings reconciliation and oneness. When we are truly walking in the Spirit, we have compassion, love and a heart for reconciliation with all God's people.

8. Where do you need to experience the Holy Spirit's reconciliation in your life?

## CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for sending your son Jesus and leaving us your Spirit to help lead us and guide us. Will you help us feel the Holy Spirit as a comforter and also gently convict us of the sin in our lives that keep us from living a life that glorifies and points back to you. Show us the importance of living with the Holy Spirit and give us clarity in how to walk with the Spirit in our lives. Amen.

## ACTION STEP

- + Continue following along with us in the Awaken series by going to <https://crosspoint.tv/awaken/> to sign - up for daily emails, a prayer guide and more.
- + Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal things in your life that don't line up with what God has for you. Be open to the conviction (not condemnation) from the Spirit. Repent of the convictions and ask God to help you live a life that always points back to Jesus.
- + Save the date for the Awaken Worship Night at 6:30 PM on February 28 (auditorium doors open at 6:15 PM)
- + Invite a friend or group member to pray with you about the convictions you are having and ask them to help keep you accountable to the steps God wants you to take to be more like Him.