

REVERB::EMPOWERED::Introducing the Holy Spirit::lesson six

FAMILY DEVOTION

Do you anxiously anticipate the season finale of a dramatic TV show? Commercials promise that this episode is the episode to end all episodes. You diligently watch with great anticipation and hope that all of your questions will be answered before new questions are raised. Will someone die? Does a relationship have a promising future, or is it going to end with an ugly argument? Instead of getting more answers, many times you are left with more questions until the new season begins months later!

Just like the cliffhangers of a TV show, do you sometimes have questions about life and aren't sure where to go for answers? Does your future seem uncertain? Where do you go in your quest for truth?

Jesus' earthly ministry was coming to a close. His followers had closely listened to His teachings for three years. They had seen Jesus heal the sick and feed thousands. Now Jesus was talking to them about leaving. They must have wondered, "Why is He going?" "What do we do now?" "Who will be our leader?" "What does our future hold?"

Read John 16:12–15 out loud. Ask everyone in your family: If you were a disciple listening to Jesus, what questions would you ask Him? While Jesus probably answered a lot of questions, there were probably a lot of questions left unanswered that day. But Jesus told them that someone would come after Him with answers—the Helper, the Holy Spirit. While the disciples wouldn't fully understand this truth until Pentecost, Jesus was giving His followers the most important key to their spiritual journey—the way to discern truth and know His will for their lives. The Holy Spirit would be their guide. He would direct their steps. He would help them discern truth.

As a believer, you too, have access to the One who can provide answers to your spiritual questions—the Holy Spirit. When you are seeking direction, are you sensitive to the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart? Seek truth by staying in God's Word and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide you into truth. The result is that God is glorified through those who follow His Word.

CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. Do you have an understanding of who the Holy Spirit is what His purpose is? If you had to explain the Holy Spirit to someone, how would you describe Him?
2. What questions do you have about your future? How do you seek answers and God's will for your life?
3. When you read the Bible, are you sensitive to how the Holy Spirit may be speaking to you? Can you think of a passage of Scripture that seemed to be exactly the answer that you needed at a certain time in your life? How did God use the truth of His Word to answer a question you had at that time?
4. Read John 16:15 again. What do you think it means by saying "the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you"? What kind of responsibility does that place on believers? How does it bring glory to God?
5. Share with your family something that seems very uncertain in your life. Commit to praying for the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

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