



Small Group Study Guide for May 17, 2020

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come as the Advocate – a Comforter, who would help us and be with us forever. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, and He lives in us and is in us. We rejoice in the comfort and presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The Spirit helps us to believe and see Jesus at work in our hearts, and to follow Him with joyful faith.

Getting Started:

1. What is a joy you experienced this past week?
2. What was a challenge or something difficult you experienced this past week?

In the Word: John 14:15-21

3. Jesus connects 'love' with 'obedience' in verses 15 and 21. Why do you think Jesus makes this connection between love and obedience, and how does that relate to our life in Christ?
4. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be given to the disciples to strengthen them and comfort them while Jesus was "away." Remember this is right after Jesus said "I am going to prepare a place for you" earlier in the chapter. Jesus says in verse 16, "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate (Gk: *Paraclete*). This term for the Holy Spirit is translated in a number of ways, because it has multiple meanings. Discuss how each of these words apply to the work of the Holy Spirit.

New International Version (NIV) = Advocate

Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV) = Counselor

English Standard Version (ESV) = Helper

King James Version (KJV) = Comforter

5. Why does the world not believe in the Holy Spirit, according to verse 17?
6. The Holy Spirit is what makes what Jesus says in verse 19 happen. Jesus says we will see Him, and we will live (eternally). How does the Holy Spirit help us to see Jesus and live in Him?
7. Read John 14:26. What else does the Holy Spirit do for us according to Jesus in this verse?
8. Jesus calls the Holy Spirit the “Spirit of Truth” and says that He will remind us of everything Jesus said. Look up and read 2 Peter 1:21-22. How does the Holy Spirit bring us the Truth of Jesus?

Putting it Together

9. How would you describe the work of the Holy Spirit in your life?
10. What questions do you still have about the Holy Spirit (admittedly, a very mysterious person of the Trinity)?
11. The Holy Spirit helps us believe and speak about Jesus, and He comes to us through the Word of God (Scripture and the Gospel). Paul even says, “No one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:3). Why is it comforting to know that our faith and our witness is the work of the Holy Spirit within us?

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith and witness to Christ during these days of pandemic, and to reveal God’s Word to us through the Scriptures. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring us comfort and encouragement in Christ, so that we may comfort and encourage others in Jesus’ name.

Check out our Online Bible Studies on Isaiah and 1 Peter at www.oursaviorlansing.org/faithresources
LiveStream Worship continues at 9:30 each Sunday morning. Share with your friends and family!