

GETTING READY FOR THE

HOLY SPIRIT

Week 3 -
Readiness,
Part 1

week
three

October 7,
2018

In a hot desert, a man or a woman does not always sense that he or she is thirsty. Many people have died because of their exhaustion without knowing they needed water. The same could be true in spiritual things. Jesus' statement is great. He says, "If anyone is thirsty . . ." Can you feel this sensation of thirsting for something more?

He is present and he has this awesome gift for you. As you come closer to Jesus with your needs, allow him to reveal about this awesome love. Come expectant of the Spirit's power and how he will move in ways beyond your imagination. Can you hear him call you to repent? Come lay down your fears, doubts, failures, the junk... and let's prepare ourselves to receive.

Icebreakers (Pick one or do them both!)

1. +Do you like being around bodies of water (Lakes, Rivers, Ponds, Stream, even Pools)? What is a memory associated with water?
2. Is it easy or hard for you to ask for help with something? How do you think your answer to the first question might impact how you pray to God?



growing deeper

Small Group Questions:

Thirst - Read: John 7:37-39

1. How would you characterize spiritual "thirst"?

2. We hope for various things in our lives, and we believe certain things will bring satisfaction, wholeness and completion. We hunger and thirst for the things we desire. List some things that a person could hunger and thirst for? Who provides the wholeness Jesus is directing us to?

3. Describe your ideas of what "streams of living water" would be, coming from within a follower of Jesus.

Expect - Read: Ephesians 3:14-21

4. How have you experienced God's love in your life? What types of actions does His love bring about in you?

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5. Why might we need “power” to grow in Christ’s love? Where does this power for love originate?

6. How does this passage describe the Lord’s capability to work through the Holy Spirit in you or in a Body of Believers? (v. 20) Is your tendency to be trusting or to be guarded in allowing the Spirit to work through you?

Repent - Read: Acts 2:38, I John 1:5-10

7. What is repentance? And, why is important in order to receive the Spirit?

8. How does a person “walk in the light”? List some of your thoughts. Again, what is the Spirit’s role or evidence of the Holy Spirit’s presence?

Praying Together:

Closing prayer: Lord, we praise you for your great love and how you are revealing this deeper thirst in us that is for you. We know that you have so much guidance and power through your Holy Spirit and we want to see your fruit in our lives. We confess that we have our own ideas, insecurities and sin that get in the way of working with your Holy Spirit. Guide us individually and corporately in repentance, so that we can throw off things that hinder us from cooperating with you and embrace living in your light. - Amen

A Step Further:

Take some time this week to pray with a partner(s) and reflect on some of ways the Holy Spirit draws us toward him through Thrusting, Expectancy, and Repentance.

An idea for prayer at the end of your small group is break into groups of 2-4, and “invite” the Lord to join your conversation - “Lord, as we keep talking we intentionally ask you to guide the conversation through your Holy Spirit”.

Some ideas:

*Thank the Lord for the many ways the Holy Spirit draws us closer to him.

*Ask the Lord to remove any barriers that may exist that keep you from knowing Him as a Loving God

*Pray for the Holy Spirit to teach us how to love one another and those around us.

*Pray expectant of the Lord doing ‘immeasurably more’.

*Pray a prayer to turn away from something that has been hindering your relationship with Jesus; Consider confessing a sin to another person to help with turning away from a behavior that is unhealthy.

