

BIBLE STUDY GUIDE + STREAMING VIDEO

SIX SESSIONS

MARGARET FEINBERG

THE GOD YOU NEED TO KNOW

12 PRACTICES
TO AWAKEN YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT



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MARGARET FEINBERG

THE GOD YOU NEED TO KNOW

12 PRACTICES TO AWAKEN YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

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The God You Need to Know Bible Study Guide

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INVITATION FROM MARGARET

Hi, friend.

I'll confess that I've struggled to know and recognize the Holy Spirit in my life and in my community. I loved reading Jesus stories throughout the Gospels as a kid. Through their depiction of Christ's humanity, I could picture his compassionate eyes and hearty laughter. And from biblical descriptions of God the Father, I grew comfortable with the image of God on his throne—sovereign and powerful.

But when it came to the Holy Spirit, I struggled to wrap my head and heart around the one who Jesus once compared to the wind: “The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going” (John 3:8). Unseen but undeniably moving.

Maybe you can relate. Perhaps you've heard about the Holy Spirit in sermons or read about the Spirit in Scripture but still feel like the Spirit is an unfamiliar notion rather than a living presence in your life—more like a theological concept than a divine companion.

Now when it comes to the Holy Spirit, I'm far from an expert. I'm just a fellow learner on this journey of following God. But I've recently discovered the Holy Spirit anew by examining the Spirit's presence throughout the Old Testament. What I've learned has helped me love the Spirit of the Living God even more, and I hope it will for you too.

I remember curling up in my couch one morning, the pages of Exodus resting in front of me, when I felt it—that gentle stirring, like the rustling of leaves before the rain. The ancient words about the Spirit suddenly felt as fresh as the morning dew, and I realized I had been looking for something complex while the Spirit of God had been breathing beside me all along.

Together through this study, we're going to discover how the Holy Spirit is not merely a force or an idea—the Spirit is the very presence of God, hovering over chaos, residing within us, guiding us, empowering us, and transforming us from the inside out. The Spirit is the breath of God who gives us life, the whisper in the storm that Elijah heard, and the Comforter who never abandons us.

The God You Need to Know is an invitation not to theological debates or abstract discussions but rather to an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit, filling our lives with power and peace that surpasses understanding.

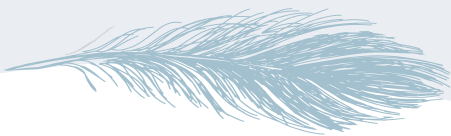
As you turn these pages, my prayer is that you will encounter the Holy Spirit afresh through deep biblical study and simple practices that empower you to walk in step with the Spirit. Whether you are new to the idea of faith or have journeyed with God for years, the Holy Spirit has more for you—more wonder, more comfort, more power, more love.

Are you ready to embark on a journey that will forever change the way you see and experience God? If so, take a deep breath—the Spirit is already here, waiting to meet you in these pages, in this moment, in your very breath.

With all my love,

♡ Margaret ♡





HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE

GROUP SIZE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The God You Need to Know video study is designed to be experienced in a group setting such as a Bible study, Sunday school class, or small group gathering. To facilitate meaningful discussion among larger groups, divide participants in groups of four to six following the teaching video. Select one person in each group to act as the facilitator during the discussion time. Of course, you can always work through the material and watch the videos on your own if a group is unavailable. But this study, in particular, is designed to be experienced with others. Consider calling a few friends or neighbors to join in the fun.

MATERIALS NEEDED

To gain the most from this study, each participant should have their own copy of this study guide as well as their own copy of the book *The God You Need to Know*. Each study guide comes with individual streaming video access to the six teaching videos. Every member of your group has full access to watch videos from the convenience of their chosen devices at any time—for missed group meetings, for rewatching, or for sharing the teaching with others. This gives your group the flexibility to make the experience doable no matter your unique circumstances.

LEADING A GROUP

Each group should appoint a leader or facilitator who is responsible for starting the video and keeping track of time during the activities and discussion.

Facilitators may also read questions aloud, monitor discussions, prompt participants to respond, and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate.

You do not need to buy the book to complete this Bible study. However, for the most comprehensive experience, it's recommended to read the suggested chapters as you go through the study.

There's a Leader's Guide in the back of each study guide so anyone can lead a group through this study.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

There are a variety of ways to experience this study:

1. Meet, watch the videos, and discuss the questions.
2. Meet, watch the videos, discuss the questions, and do the homework.
3. Meet, watch the videos, discuss the questions, do the homework, and read the book.

Select the option that best fits your group and time restraints. Groups who choose option 3 often extend the time to go through the content at a slower pace.

This study guide includes group activities, video outline notes, group discussion questions, personal study days for between group meetings, and Scripture memory coloring pages to deepen learning between sessions.

At the beginning of each session, the study guide suggests chapters of the book to read before the next gathering. Each personal study day will lead participants deeper into the scriptural content of the video or book. On the next page, you'll find a sample of the schedule that appears at the beginning of every new week.

<p>OPTIONAL BEFORE GROUP MEETING</p>	<p>Read chapters _____ in <i>The God You Need to Know</i> book.</p>
<p>DURING GROUP MEETING</p>	<p>Watch teaching video for Session _____. Group discussion will follow, pages _____.</p>
<p>PERSONAL STUDY DAY 1</p>	<p>Study guide pages _____</p>
<p>PERSONAL STUDY DAY 2</p>	<p>Study guide pages _____</p>
<p>PERSONAL STUDY DAY 3</p>	<p>Study guide pages _____</p>
<p>PERSONAL STUDY CATCH-UP DAYS 4 & 5</p>	<p>Complete any unfinished Personal Study activities. Optional: Read chapters _____ in <i>The God You Need to Know</i> book.</p>

TIMING

The timing notations—for example, twenty minutes—indicate the actual length of the video segments and the suggested times for each activity or discussion. Within your allotted group meeting time, you may not get to all the discussion questions. Remember that the quantity of questions addressed isn't as important as the quality of the discussion.

Your group may choose to use a single session for two meetings rather than one. This option allows conversations to explore more fully the content of the study guide and the book. While the first meeting could be devoted to watching the teaching video and responding to the group questions, the second meeting could be devoted to exploring the insights gained from the personal study days.

Using the Leader's Guide in the back of the guide to review the content overview of each session and the group discussion questions in advance will give you a good idea of which questions you want to focus on as a leader or group facilitator.

OPENING GROUP DISCUSSION AND ACTIVITY

Depending on the amount of time you meet and the resources available, you'll find discussion questions at the beginning of every lesson and optional activities at the beginning of Sessions 3 and 6. These interactive questions and activities are designed to be a catalyst for group engagement and help participants prepare and transition to the ideas explored in the video teaching.

The leader or facilitator will want to read ahead to the following week's activity to see what will be needed and how participants may be able to contribute by bringing supplies or refreshments.



“Pentecost unfolds with a regalia of signs and wonders and unity and generosity that become markers of the early church.

No wonder we still turn to the second chapter of Acts to see this work of the Spirit. Yet this is *not* the Spirit’s grand debut; it’s a culmination of centuries of the Spirit’s work throughout the world.”

FROM *THE GOD YOU NEED TO KNOW*

p. 11



SESSION ONE

IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT

GROUP STUDY



SCHEDULE

OPTIONAL BEFORE GROUP MEETING

Pick up a copy of *The God You Need to Know* book.

DURING GROUP MEETING

Watch teaching video for Session 1.
Group discussion will follow, pages 16–21.

PERSONAL STUDY DAY 1

Study guide pages 23–29

PERSONAL STUDY DAY 2

Study guide pages 30–39

PERSONAL STUDY DAY 3

Study guide pages 40–45

PERSONAL STUDY CATCH-UP DAYS 4 & 5

Complete any unfinished Personal Study activities.
Optional: Read chapters 1–2 in *The God You Need to Know* book.



5–10 minutes

OPENING GROUP DISCUSSION

In upcoming Sessions 3 and 6, we'll have group activities, but for this opening session we'll begin with some discussion questions. Since everyone joins with different reasons, goals, and hopes, please:

Introduce yourself briefly (if this is your group's first meeting).

Share your response to at least one of the following questions:

What motivated you to join this study group?

What's one hope you have for this study—something you want to learn, experience, or explore?



BONUS

Take a photo of your group and send it to hello@margaretfeinberg.com. Our team would love to see your smiling faces and pray for your group.

 26 minutes

SESSION 1 VIDEO

Leader, stream the video or play the DVD.

VIDEO NOTES

As you watch, use the outline to help you follow along and take notes on anything that stands out to you.

**SCRIPTURE
COVERED IN THIS
TEACHING SESSION:**

**Genesis 1:2;
Psalm 51:10–11;
Judges 15:14;
Acts 2:1–18**

Story of the “air comforter” — *This is new, different, and I’m comfortable where I am.*

Perichoresis describes the internal relationship of the members of the Trinity.

Peri meaning “around” + *choresis* meaning “dance” = choreography

Jesus gives his disciples a parting gift they’ll treasure forever.

Paraclete means Advocate, Helper, Counselor, Comforter, and Strengthenener.

The Holy Spirit is all over the Old Testament.

Acts 2—Of course, it would happen this way!

Marinate in Scripture.

Make space to listen.

Talk about the Holy Spirit with others.

 30–45 minutes

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Leader note: *Take a few moments to review these questions, then feel free to add some of your own or whisk away any that aren't a good fit for your group. Remember, our goal isn't to cover every question but to foster meaningful discussion and experience those heart-to-heart moments that draw us closer to each other and to God as we journey together—trusting the Spirit to guide our conversations.*

What challenged, encouraged, or stood out to you about this first session?

- 1. I tell the story of the “air comforter” to illustrate that we all have moments in our spiritual lives where we think, *This is different. I'm comfortable where I am. You can just keep that over there.* And later, we discover this is the greatest gift ever.**

When you hear the phrase “Holy Spirit,” what's the first image, feeling, or thought that comes to mind?

What's one experience or teaching that shaped your understanding (or confusion) about the Holy Spirit?

2. The internal relationship of the Trinity is described using the word *perichoresis*, meaning “choreography.” Whenever God moves, all the members of the Trinity work together in a dance of mutual admiration, love, and mission, delighting in one another. In this beautiful dance, one member of the Trinity may take the lead, but the others always are in step.

What are some of the ways you’ve heard the Trinity described to you?

Which have been most helpful?

What comes to mind when you imagine the Trinity in a dance?

3. Invite volunteers to read the following scriptures aloud to the group: **Genesis 1:2, Psalm 51:10–11, and Judges 15:14.** After each passage is read, pause to answer the following questions:

How is the Holy Spirit described or what role is the Spirit playing in this passage?

How does this Old Testament view of the Spirit compare to anything you’ve understood about the Holy Spirit from the New Testament?

In what ways might these passages challenge or expand your current understanding of the Holy Spirit's work?

- 4. In this study, we look at Acts 2:1–18 in both this first session and in the final session. As a group, let's take a few moments to reflect on Pentecost. Ask participants to take turns reading through Acts 2:1–18 aloud. Then, invite each person to jot down notes regarding the following questions. After making some personal notes, discuss your answers.**

How do you think the disciples felt before the Holy Spirit entered this way compared to after? Can you relate to either of these states in your own spiritual journey? If so, describe.

In what ways has the Holy Spirit worked as a unifying force in your life, bringing people together despite their differences (like language in this passage)?

What's one way you'd love to experience the Spirit working in your own life, maybe like the believers in Acts 2?

5. I encourage us to “marinate in scripture.” I shared two examples. Once, a student quietly passed me a note containing Isaiah 43 during a difficult time. Another comes from Elenna, who found unexpected strength in Isaiah 41:10 after her husband’s sudden death.

What’s one Scripture that has come alive for you in a fresh way because of the Spirit?

What was happening in your life at the time?

Where in your life do you sense God’s presence has been quietly holding you, even if you didn’t notice it at first?

How would you describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit today, and how do you hope it will grow through this study?

How has listening to others share their experiences with the Holy Spirit in the group today changed or expanded your own understanding?

How might our community grow if we became more comfortable discussing the Holy Spirit’s activity in our lives?

BEFORE THE NEXT SESSION...

Every week, this study guide includes five days of personal study to help awaken your relationship with the Holy Spirit through Scripture.

- Tackle the three days of personal study (with two days to catch up and reflect) for Session 1.
- Optional: Read chapters 1–2 of *The God You Need to Know* book.
- Memorize this week’s passage using the Scripture memory coloring page. As a bonus, look up the Scripture memory passage in different translations and take note of the variations.
- Try the three practices from this session and be prepared to share how it went at the next gathering.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Consider the following prompts as you pray together for:

- Increasing awareness and attentiveness to the Spirit
- Scripture to spark life in fresh and meaning ways
- Prompts and nudges to share Christ’s love





If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! Luke 11:13



SESSION ONE

IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT

PERSONAL STUDY



PERSONAL STUDY DAY 1

HOLY SPIRIT, WHO ARE YOU?

Years ago, my friend Marcus saved up to take his family on vacation—a rare treat for his three children and his beloved wife. When they arrived at the hotel, a staff member materialized beside the front desk.

“Can I offer any of you a refreshing drink?” the staff member asked.

Dollar signs spun like a game-show wheel in Marcus’s mind. The family was on a tight budget, each expense calculated with the precision of an anxious mathematician.

“Thank you, but we’re good,” he announced, his voice a thin disguise for worry.

After checking in, his wife pulled a diet soda from the mini-bar and popped it open with a satisfying hiss. Marcus lunged for a printed menu, then reminded her about the legendary costs of in-room snacks before hurrying to ensure his children hadn’t discovered the snacks in their room.

As the family headed to the beach, a staff member appeared, arms filled with clean, warm towels.

“You’ll need these,” she offered.

“Are you sure?” Marcus asked, hands hesitating midair, seeing each towel marked with invisible price tags. He gingerly accepted the towels, and the staff member vanished before he could properly thank her.

Later, returning sun-soaked from the beach, another employee offered, “Can I make you a dinner reservation at our restaurant tonight?”

Marcus imagined the size of a sit-down restaurant bill. “We’re good, but thank you,” he said, already mentally mapping the route to the nearest fast-food establishment.

That evening, the family slipped away to an inexpensive restaurant, sharing French fries and drinking water to save precious resources. This pattern continued throughout their stay—eating at budget restaurants beyond the hotel grounds, gathering provisions from a local grocery store like wilderness survivors.

Meanwhile, Marcus and his family basked in the hotel’s unexpected generosity: the attentive staff who materialized with fresh towels before beach excursions, umbrellas that appeared precisely when rain began to fall, and bottles of water that the staff assured Marcus—each time with increasing emphasis—were “complimentary.”

When the time came for checkout, Marcus approached the front desk with the hidden confidence that he’d beat the system. Other than his wife’s single diet soda, he’d managed to avoid any additional charges. But when the hotel clerk presented his bill, even that small indulgence had been erased.

Marcus felt a twinge of honesty nudge him. “I think you’re missing a charge for a soda from our room’s refrigerator,” he said.

“Sir, those are complimentary,” the clerk responded.

“What?” he asked. “I don’t understand.”

“This is an all-inclusive resort, sir,” the clerk explained. “Everything—meals, drinks, activities, and service—it’s all included in the price you paid when you booked.”

Marcus still shakes his head in disbelief when he retells his vacation story—everything was all-included, but he spent the entire time living as if it weren’t.

He accepted a few small provisions but declined the grand feasts.

Sometimes when I think about Marcus's story, I can't help but see it as a parable for our spiritual lives. Many of us live as visitors in an all-inclusive kingdom, clutching our resources tightly, declining God's extravagant offerings, living on spiritual fast food when a banquet table has been prepared.

All-included in our relationship with God through Jesus is the Holy Spirit.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Spirit is not an optional upgrade or premium feature but an essential presence that transforms our spiritual experience from austere to abundant. The Spirit stands attentive, eager to offer strength where we're depleted, to lift burdens we were never designed to carry alone, and to illuminate paths that would otherwise remain obscure.

Sure, you can attempt this journey on your own strength. But why would you? That would be like going to an all-inclusive resort and insisting on paying for everything separately when it has already been provided, already been paid for, already been included.

The question is not whether the Holy Spirit is available to you—the question is whether you'll accept, experience, and enjoy what, or rather who, you've already been given.

When have you found yourself, like Marcus, declining something freely offered because you couldn't believe it was really included?

Read Acts 2:38. How is the Holy Spirit described?

How might this change how you think about and approach a relationship with the Holy Spirit?

Marcus missed out on many amenities because he didn't understand what was included. What aspects of the Holy Spirit's presence and power might you be overlooking or declining in your daily life?

Read John 14:16. What does Jesus reveal about the Holy Spirit in this verse?

In the story about Marcus's vacation, the hotel staff kept appearing at just the right moments with just what was needed.

Have you ever experienced a moment of unexpected help, guidance, or comfort that came just when you needed it? Whether you recognized it as the Holy Spirit at the time or not, what was that experience like for you?

What did it reveal to you about the character, competence, or kindness of God?

Read Romans 8:26. Reflect on a specific time when God's strength sustained you beyond what you thought possible. What did that reveal about the Spirit's work in your life?

“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Luke 11:13

Reflecting on Luke 11:13 above, what would you like to ask of the Holy Spirit today?

Marcus eventually learned the truth about his all-inclusive package, but this didn't occur until the end of his stay.

What daily practice might help you stay aware of the Spirit's presence and provisions?

The Holy Spirit isn't waiting for you to earn special access or save up spiritual currency. You don't need to anxiously check the price list before accepting what God freely offers. The Spirit—with all gifts, fruit, and power—is already included in what Jesus purchased for you. The question isn't, “Can I afford this?” but rather, “How might my life transform as I embrace what's already freely given?”



PERSONAL STUDY DAY 2

HOLY SPIRIT, I THINK I WANT TO KNOW YOU

There is a guest who has been moving through the rooms of your life since before you had words to name what you needed. Sometimes, in rare moments of clarity—perhaps during a sunset that shatters your defenses or in the warm silence after a friend’s embrace—you catch a glimpse of this presence. Not with your eyes, exactly, but with something deeper, like the way you internally know when someone has entered a room even before you turn around.

This is the Spirit who hovered over the waters, the wind that parts seas, and the fire that doesn’t consume. And yet, for all this cosmic drama, the Spirit often comes to us in sacred echoes, in gentle nudges, in questions that arrive unexpectedly at three in the morning.

When we say, “Holy Spirit, I think I want to know you,” we may be tempted to approach the Spirit cautiously, the way you might approach a deer in a forest clearing—aware that any sudden movement on our part might send this wild thing disappearing into the trees. Yet the Spirit isn’t shy, as some claim; the Spirit is willing and ready.

Just like any vibrant relationship, a relationship with the Spirit can’t be forced or scripted or reduced into formulaic, rote prayers. Rather, a relationship with the Spirit is built over time, nurtured, and attended to—just as you would a dear friend.

Take a moment and prayerfully imagine introducing yourself to the Holy Spirit. Sure, the Spirit already knows you inside and out.

Now, as you continue the conversation, what questions would you ask the Spirit? They can be on anything that naturally comes to mind. (Examples: *Where are you from? What do you like to do? What brings you joy?*)

This simple practice of introducing ourselves to the Spirit and prayerfully engaging in a natural conversation may be new to you, but something shifts in us when we become more attentive to the nearness of the Holy Spirit. Like discovering that the stranger who has been helping you gather dropped papers on a windy day is the author of your favorite book, you're in for a beautiful surprise when you look up.

What might change in you as you increasingly acknowledge the one who has been waiting for you to notice all along?

We sometimes mistakenly view the Holy Spirit as lesser in importance simply because of the familiar ordering we encounter creeds: “Father, Son, and Spirit.” This common sequence can unconsciously lead us to apply human rankings where none exist.

Within the Trinity, there's no hierarchy or ranking—no first, second, or third in significance. Each person of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Spirit—exists in perfect equality and unity, sharing fully in the divine nature and purpose.

The Holy Spirit is fully God. This means the Spirit possesses all the divine attributes of God the Father and God the Son. The Spirit is not a representative of God or an agent of God but is equally God, co-eternal with the Father and the Son. This foundational truth helps us delight in who the Spirit is and the vital relationship the Spirit desires with us.

Let's discover together what that might look like. The character, personality, and presence of the Holy Spirit is revealed throughout Scripture. So if we want to become more attentive to the presence and prompts of the Spirit, then the practices of **Marinating in Scripture** and **Making Space to Listen** are essential.

Let's embark on an adventure with the Holy Spirit—whether you're old friends or just getting acquainted.

Over the next few pages you'll find passages that offer glimpses into how the Spirit works in our lives. Instead of rushing through, let's try something a little different.

1. **Take a breath and slow down.** This isn't a race! Read each Scripture passage as if you're savoring a delicious meal rather than grabbing fast food.
2. **Get curious.** You might want to underline or circle words that jump out at you (like finding hidden treasures in plain sight).
3. **Listen with your heart.** Sometimes the most important conversations happen in quiet moments. These prompts are for you to ask, listen, and record whatever you might hear.



PASSAGE 1

But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Romans 8:10–11

Holy Spirit, what does this passage teach me about you?

Holy Spirit, what does this passage reveal to me about your presence and work in my life now?

Holy Spirit, is there an invitation here for me? Something I'm being nudged toward?



PASSAGE 2

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Romans 8:14–16

Holy Spirit, what does this passage teach me about you?

Holy Spirit, what does this passage reveal to me about your presence and work in my life now?

Holy Spirit, is there an invitation here for me? Something I'm being nudged toward?



PASSAGE 3

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18

Holy Spirit, what does this passage teach me about you?

Holy Spirit, what does this passage reveal to me about your presence and work in my life now?

Holy Spirit, is there an invitation here for me? Something I'm being nudged toward?



PASSAGE 4

... because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction.

1 Thessalonians 1:5

Holy Spirit, what does this passage teach me about you?

Holy Spirit, what does this passage reveal to me about your presence and work in my life now?

Holy Spirit, is there an invitation here for me? Something I'm being nudged toward?



PASSAGE 5

But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

Jude 1:20–21

Holy Spirit, what does this passage teach me about you?

Holy Spirit, what does this passage reveal to me about your presence and work in my life now?

Holy Spirit, is there an invitation here for me? Something I'm being nudged toward?

When you open Scripture, you're never sitting there alone with just ink and paper or a screen. The Spirit is like that enthusiastic friend who says, "Oh! Remember that part Jesus talked about? Let me show you how that fits perfectly into what you're facing today." That's the Holy Spirit—eagerly waiting to turn the words from the Bible's pages into vibrant, life-giving invitations to transformation.

Let's take a few minutes to get to know the Holy Spirit a little more. Look up the passages listed and fill in the chart.

Bible Passage	How does this passage encourage you about the Holy Spirit's presence and work in your life?
John 16:13–15	
Acts 1:8	
1 Corinthians 2:13	
1 Corinthians 3:16	
2 Corinthians 3:18	

Remember, the Spirit is like that surprise gift you didn't know you needed until you unwrapped it. The Spirit is with you like a friend who knows all your secrets yet stays anyway, a guide who sees the entire map when you're lost in the undergrowth, a power source when your own batteries have long gone flat, and a translator who understands your wordless groans and turns them into perfect prayer.

What extravagant generosity that the very breath of God would choose to make a home in you!



PERSONAL STUDY DAY 3

HOLY SPIRIT, I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU

The Holy Spirit dances into our lives like an unexpected gift—the kind wrapped in shimmering paper that makes you catch your breath when you discover it. Now, if we're going to *know* more about the Spirit, that means *knowing* more about the Trinity—Father, Son, and Spirit—three in one.

Have you ever watched close friends who finish each other's sentences? Or maybe a couple who've been married for decades moving around the kitchen without words, each anticipating what the other needs? The mystery we call the Trinity has that kind of beautiful love and harmony but infinitely deeper.

People often try to explain the Trinity using everyday objects. "It's like an apple," they say, "with skin, flesh, and core—three distinct parts making one whole." Or, "Think of an egg with its shell, white, and yolk." These simple comparisons help us begin to think about how Father, Son, and Spirit can be distinct yet completely one.

Of course, there's no perfect one-to-one comparison for the beauty and wonder of the Trinity. But one of my favorite ways to think about the Trinity comes from the theological word *perichoresis*. Don't let the fancy term intimidate you. It simply paints an image of the internal relationship of the members of the Trinity like a choreographed dance.

Imagine the most exquisite dance you've ever witnessed, where the dancers move with such unity and joy that you can't always tell where one ends and another begins. That's the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Whenever God moves, all the members of the Trinity work together in a delightful dance of mutual admiration, love, and mission, delighting in each other. In this beautiful dance, one member of the Trinity may take the lead, but the others are always in step, completely attuned to each other.

For instance, during creation God the Father took the lead, speaking it into existence, but as Scripture reveals, the Son and Spirit were also actively involved. It was like watching this dance spill over with creativity—all three persons moving together in perfect love to bring something beautiful into being.

Look up the passages and fill in the chart.

Scripture	Role of the Son and of the Spirit
Genesis 1:2	
John 1:1–5, 9–13	
Colossians 1:15–16	

As this divine choreography continues, we see each member of the Trinity stepping forward at different moments while remaining perfectly unified. The music changes, the movement shifts, but the harmony remains unbroken. What began as a dance of creation eventually flows into a dance of restoration.

When I consider the Trinity, I picture a joyous, delightful dance among the Father, Son, and Spirit.

Now, this study will focus on one member of the Trinity, but please note, this is never to be understood as an exclusion of the others. God is one, and where one member of the Trinity is present at work, all of God is present and working. Jesus used a revealing word to describe the Holy Spirit:

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another *advocate* to help you and be with you forever.”

John 14:16 (emphasis added)

The original Greek word here is *paraklētos* (sometimes called the “Paraclete”). It literally means “one called to your side,” but also connotes a companion who comes to your aid or advocates for you. This paints a picture of someone who comes alongside you, like a trusted friend walking with you on a journey.

Different Bible translations capture various facets of this companionship, calling the Spirit your “Helper,” “Counselor,” “Comforter,” or “Strengthener.” Like a diamond with many facets, each name reveals something special about how the Spirit might meet you exactly where you are.

Take a moment to reflect on where you might welcome this divine presence in your life right now. Whether you’ve known the Spirit for years or are just beginning to explore the Spirit’s presence, there’s an invitation here for everyone. No pressure—fill in only what resonates with you.

I'm curious about experiencing the Spirit as an **Advocate** (someone who stands up for me) in . . .

I could use a **Helper** (offering practical assistance) with . . .

I'd welcome a **Counselor** (providing wisdom) regarding . . .

I might need a **Comforter** (bringing peace) with . . .

I'd appreciate a **Strengtheners** (giving courage) for . . .

This is just a tiny snapshot into the Spirit's presence, like peeking through a keyhole into a vast, beautiful room. There are so many more facets of the Spirit we've yet to explore.

Look up the passages below and fill in the second column with your personal response.

Bible Passage	Work of the Holy Spirit in Our Lives
John 14:25–26	
2 Thessalonians 2:13	
Romans 5:3–5	

Reflecting on the chart above, in which of these areas would you most like the Holy Spirit to do a deeper work in your life? In the space below, write a prayer asking the Spirit to do that work.



This is just an appetizer to the feast of the Holy Spirit's power and presence. The Spirit spans all the centuries of God's story. Just wait until we start digging into the rich flavors of the Old Testament at our next gathering. I can hardly wait for you to taste and see!





PERSONAL STUDY CATCH-UP DAYS 4 & 5


HOLY SPIRIT, TEACH ME MORE

Use these extra days to go back and complete any of the reflection questions or activities from the previous days this week that you were unable to finish. Make note of any insights you've had and make a list of any stories you'd like to share with your group the next time you gather.

OPTIONAL:

Spend the next two days reading chapters 1–2 of the book *The God You Need to Know*. Use the space below and on the next page to note anything in the chapters that stands out to you or encourages your heart.





“When the Spirit steps onto the stage in the opening scene of Genesis, the Spirit doesn’t flicker in and out of the chaos of the world. Rather, the *ruach Elohim*—the Spirit of God—hovers over what seems untamable.”

FROM *THE GOD YOU NEED TO KNOW*
p. 27

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