

Summer Small Group Curriculum

Week of 8-13-2011

1. Which do you think is easier: For the disciples to be led a flesh and blood Jesus or for us to be led by the Holy Spirit? Why?
2. Read John 16:5-7. Why do you think Jesus said it would be *better* for the disciples for him to be go away and for the Holy Spirit to lead them?
3. Read Genesis 2:7 and John 20:21-22. What role did God's spirit have on the creation of humanity? What role does he have on our new creation?
4. Ephesians 5:18-20. The Apostle Paul compares being filled with the Spirit with being drunk on alcohol. How is being filled with the Spirit like or unlike being drunk?
5. Pastor Derek pointed out how Jesus called the Holy Spirit the "helper." Divide your small group into sub-groups and assign portions of John 14-16 to each group. Have them identify ways the Holy Spirit is their helper from the passages.
6. Pastor Derek mentioned several was the Holy Spirit mentors us. Have your groups members look up the following passages and list the different ways the Holy Spirit empowers us: Acts 1:8, Romans 8:15-16, Romans 8:26-27, John 16:8-11, Romans 8:14.
7. Discuss ways your group members have noticed the Holy Spirit mentoring them in recent years?
8. What's the difference between being mentored by the Holy Spirit and packaging your own whims and wants in religious terms so you can get what you want? What safe guards can you put in place to keep from confusing the two?
9. Application: Challenge group members to sit quietly for ten minutes each day after asking the Holy Spirit to speak to them. Have them come back next week to talk about the experience.