

CHAPTER FOUR

THE BIGGEST DECISION OF YOUR (NEW) LIFE

One week after becoming a Christian, I desperately needed guidance. I wanted so much to make my life count for God. But how? Serving him was the least I could do after all he had done for me. What did he want me to do?

Maybe I should go to Africa and tell everyone about Jesus, I thought. (Africa was the toughest place I could imagine.) I pictured myself walking mile after dusty mile, knotty staff in hand, a parched prophet reduced to skin and bone. My cracked lips begged for a drop of relief. The red, sweat-soaked bandanna around my head did nothing to shield me from the heat as I heroically trekked across the desert plains looking for anyone who might not know Jesus. What would I eat? Roots? Bugs? What would I drink? How would I survive with the lions? Cheetahs? Hyenas? It didn't matter. All that mattered was to do something for God.

Another option—though somehow this sounded more dangerous than Africa—was going to seminary. But which seminary? Where would I get the money? And shouldn't I finish my college education first?

Only a week old in the faith and already paralyzed by indecision. Thankfully God didn't leave me floundering for long.

After the next church meeting I attended, the speaker invited those who wanted to be "baptized in the Holy Spirit" to meet in a separate room. I had never heard this phrase in my life. It sounded kind of strange, but I figured if I was going to be dodging wild animals in the Sahara, I had better get everything from God I could get.

I approached the man as soon as the meeting was over. "Sir," I asked, "what does it mean to be baptized in the Holy Spirit? I gave my life to Christ last week. Do I need this, this, uh, thing, this being baptized in the Holy

Meditate on 2 Corinthians 3:5-6.

Are Christians competent (on their own) to do anything worthwhile for God?

Spirit?” Without a moment’s hesitation he answered, “Going to that room and being filled with the Holy Spirit is the most important decision you will ever make as a Christian.”

(Since then, I’ve often wondered why he spoke so emphatically. Perhaps he saw in my eyes the look of a fanatic—someone who carefully considers all the options before flying off half-cocked. That was me.)

Nervously I entered the room and slid into a pew with

twenty other folks who looked equally confused. I waited uneasily. Though I wanted all God had for me, this seemed very unusual. Eventually a young man came in and read some passages from the Bible. He explained what it meant to be baptized in the Spirit. Then he and some others began praying for us.

What followed was the most glorious thing, next to becoming a Christian, that has ever happened to me. I look back now and realize that my decision to seek this experience with the Holy Spirit was...well, the most important decision I have ever made as a Christian.

1 Other than your response to the gospel, what is the single biggest decision you have made in your life?

Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Theologian Gordon Fee writes of a seminary student who once confessed, “God the Father makes perfectly good sense to me; and God the Son I can quite understand; but the Holy Spirit is a gray, oblong blur.”¹ Since most Christians have felt that way at one time or another, let’s start with a foundational (but not simple) question: Who is the Holy Spirit?

Scripture speaks of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—one God in three persons, commonly known as the Trinity. They are the same in essence, equal, and eternal. The Father is not the Son and the Son is not the Holy Spirit, yet each is truly deity.

The Bible refers to this third person of the Trinity in a number of ways: the Spirit (John 3:6-8), the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13), the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 3:16), the Spirit of the Lord (Luke 4:18), the Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:6-7), the Spirit of his Son (Galatians 4:6), and the

For Further Study:
For an especially clear reference to the Trinity, see Matthew 28:19.

Counselor (John 16:7), to name a few. Scripture also reveals many of the Holy Spirit's personal qualities. He has a mind (Romans 8:27), possesses knowledge (1 Corinthians 2:11), teaches (John 14:26), speaks (John 16:13), guides (John 16:13), and experiences grief (Ephesians 4:30), among other things. The Spirit's role is distinct from that of the Father or the Son. We'll look at

“ In dealing with the Spirit, we are dealing with none other than the personal presence of God himself.²

— Gordon Fee

his specific functions in the next section, but one Bible teacher summed them up well by describing the Spirit as “the Resident Agent of God in the Church and the earth.”³

The Holy Spirit isn't an “it.” He isn't merely the *power* of God or the *influence* of God. He *is* God. And I think you'll be amazed to learn what a pivotal role he plays in your life as a Christian.

Ten Things the Spirit Does for You

1. The Spirit causes you to be born again. As we saw in the first chapter of this book, your salvation was initiated by God. And it was specifically carried out through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Listen to what Jesus told the Jewish ruler Nicodemus: “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but *the Spirit gives birth to spirit*” (John 3:5-6). Paul also speaks of the Holy Spirit's role in regeneration: “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal *by the Holy Spirit*, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior” (Titus 3:5-6).

2. The Spirit convicts you of sin. “When he comes,” Jesus said of the Spirit, “he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:8). You undoubtedly know what that conviction feels like. Maybe you've experienced it as a sharp inward jab, or perhaps a dull spiritual ache. The Spirit was showing you that in some area you had violated God's will for your life, and it didn't feel very good at all.

The Holy Spirit works in concert with God's Word to convict you when you sin. First, God's Word informs your mind of his standards. When you depart from those standards, the Spirit uses the Word to prick your conscience. It hurts, but conviction is a merciful gift from God. If the

**Meditate on
Revelation 3:19.** How
does God treat those
he loves?

Spirit didn't convict us of sin, we would never obtain the freedom that comes through repentance.

3. The Spirit helps you put sin to death. Once he exposes sin in your life, the Spirit comes alongside to help you overcome it. No area of his ministry is more critical: "For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live" (Romans 8:13).

The Spirit seeks to glorify God by conforming you to the image of his Son. You may have already experienced "Holy Spirit housecleaning" in your speech, actions, desires, thoughts, or motives. But as Romans 8:13 shows,

“ To walk in the Spirit and be led by the Spirit then means something more than miracles. It means victory over the desires and impulses of the flesh. It means crucifying those desires. It means cultivating the fruit of the Spirit, for the fruit of the Spirit is the best antidote to the lusts of the flesh.”

— Stanley Horton

God won't scrub sin from your life while you sleep. You are responsible to fight sin—not flirt with it, tolerate it, or yield to it. With the help of the Holy Spirit you are to put sin to death by saying "no" to the wayward appetites of your flesh and "yes" to the righteous commands of God's Word.

Don't try putting sin to death by yourself. You can't

do it. You must have the Spirit's help. By responding to his conviction and receiving his strength on a daily basis, you can overpower the sin that tries to overpower you. And in the place of those sinful habits that once controlled you, the Spirit will cultivate a wonderful crop of new fruit—his love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

4. The Spirit guides you. During my struggle to choose between African missions and seminary training, I was relieved to discover that God, through the work of the Holy Spirit, would guide me. Jesus promises such guidance very clearly in the Bible: "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come" (John 16:13). Theologian J. Rodman Williams writes that when the new birth occurs, "The Holy Spirit lays claim upon a person... so as to be the controlling and guiding reality [in his or her life]. Henceforward one is to move under the direction of the Holy Spirit."⁵

Following the Spirit's lead requires discernment. There

For Further Study:
Read Galatians 5:25.
What do you think it means to "keep in step with the Spirit"?

are people who claim the Spirit led them to neglect their children, or led them to default on a loan, or led them to invest their tithes and offerings in a new car. But we can say confidently that none of these decisions were initiated

by the Spirit. You see, the Spirit's leading is never arbitrary. The night before his death Jesus told his disciples the Spirit would guide them "into all truth." As he prayed for them later that night, he asked his Father, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:17). Since God's Word is truth, and the Spirit guides us into all truth, the Spirit will never lead you to want, say, think, or do anything outside the boundaries of God's Word. His guidance will always be consistent with Scripture. This principle will help immensely as you seek to discern whether or not "a leading" is truly from God.

2 In which of the following situations would you sense a pronounced need for God's guidance?

- ☐ Deciding whether or not to attend college
- ☐ Deciding which checkout line to take at Wal-Mart
- ☐ Deciding whether or not to get married
- ☐ Deciding whether to accept a certain job offer
- ☐ Deciding whether to cook "Squid Supreme" for dinner
- ☐ Deciding whether or not to change your child's diaper

5. The Spirit teaches you spiritual

things. Though God will regularly instruct you through others, he will also reveal things to you directly. The Holy Spirit "will teach you all things," Jesus assured his disciples, "and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:26).

A few weeks after I became a Christian, I was reading in the Gospel of Luke about Mary and her relative Elizabeth being pregnant. As I studied it, something began coming into focus. Could it be that Jesus and John the Baptist were...related? Possibly even cousins? I ran to share the news with one of my friends. I was so excited to have made a spiritual discovery!

Anyone could have discovered the same with a little bit of study. What was memorable about this event, though, is how the Holy Spirit unfolded the passage's significance to me. Suddenly I had fresh insight about how Jesus must have felt when he heard John was beheaded. It was bad enough thinking about the severed head on a platter. But John wasn't simply some wild prophet who had barked out warnings in the desert. He was family. It must have affected Jesus deeply to know that the first person to die for his sake was a relative, someone he had probably eaten with and played with while growing up.

The Spirit has probably taught you things much more significant than this—things about yourself, about the

For Further Study:

How would you sum up the remarkable promise made in 1 Corinthians 2:12-16?

character of God, or about your Christian life. It is his role to illuminate the Word of God. Unless he opens your ears and eyes, you cannot fully understand or benefit from Scripture. Make it a habit to ask the Holy Spirit for understanding and insight every time you read your Bible or listen to the Word being preached.

“Worship is one’s heart expression of love, adoration, and praise to God with an attitude and acknowledgment of his supremacy and Lordship...It is the unashamed pouring out of our inner self upon the Lord Jesus Christ in affectionate devotion.”⁶

— Bob Sorge

Meditate on Romans

8:15-16. Only by the Spirit can we intimately worship the Father.

“If we have ears to hear, hearts to receive, and wills to obey, we may trust ourselves to our Heavenly Teacher to lead us into this deep mystery of prayer.”⁸

— Arthur Wallis

6. The Spirit helps you

worship. When you were born again, the Spirit himself planted deep in your heart a desire to worship the Lord. In fact, worship is one of the chief purposes for your existence: “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the

praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Peter 2:9).

A heart touched by the Spirit won’t be able to confine worship to a Sunday meeting. Every day you are to offer God sacrifices of thanks and praise, inspired and enabled by the Spirit of God. This is no lifeless obligation. The person who has been genuinely born again and filled with the Spirit will experience a deep desire and need to express affection for God through worship.

7. The Spirit helps you pray. “We do not know how to pray as we should,” wrote the apostle Paul, “but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words” (Romans 8:26 NAS). The Holy Spirit will teach you how to pray with your *native* tongue—that is, normal words expressing the burdens of your heart. He will also enable you to pray with a *new* tongue. Christians are able to speak in other tongues once they have been baptized in the Spirit. (We’ll discuss this more at the end of the chapter.) Finally, the Holy Spirit may lead you to pray with *no* tongue at all. Paul carried burdens so heavy, so grievous

that words couldn’t express them. But through the Spirit, he poured out his heart before God with sighs and groanings.⁷

A friend of mine was on a golf trip with several other pastors when he received an urgent message from the

clubhouse. His wife, who was a couple of months pregnant, had developed complications. It seemed almost certain she would miscarry. During the long drive home he prayed intensely, first in his own words and then in the Spirit. As he did so, his faith and hope increased. Today he has a beautiful daughter to remind him that the Spirit's prayers in us and for us are mighty indeed.

8. The Spirit imparts supernatural gifts that equip you for service. "The Little Drummer Boy" was my favorite Christmas carol when I was a kid. Do you remem-

ber the words? They describe a poor little boy who wanted to give something to his King, yet had nothing of value—no gold or frankincense or myrrh. All he had was the tattered drum slung around his neck. Then, with a heart of delight, he realized what he had to offer was a song. He could play his drum for the King!

This simple song points to an important biblical truth. None of us has anything of value to give our King. He doesn't need our money. He doesn't need our things. The fact is, he doesn't "need" anything. But he does desire. He desires that his children willingly live for his glory. And through the Spirit Jesus has given each of us spiritual gifts with which to glorify him.

Scripture says, "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men" (Ephesians 4:8). The New Testament lists these spiritual gifts in several places (see, for exam-

ple, Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4). Among them are gifts such as healing, mercy and faith. Some Christians serve the church with gifts of teaching or prophecy or exceptional generosity. I don't have space here to discuss spiritual gifts in detail, but I have recommended several books at the end of this chapter that do. Take advantage of them!

9. The Spirit empowers you to witness. When the Holy Spirit takes up residence in you, your life *becomes* a witness. The changes he makes in you give evidence of the fact that God is alive and powerful. But when you are baptized in the Spirit, you also receive power to *be* a witness.

3 Most of the spiritual gifts mentioned in the New Testament are listed below. If you think God may have given you one of these gifts, put a ✓ beside it. Circle any gifts you would *like* to receive from God.

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|---|---|
| ☐ Teaching (Ro 12:7) | ☐ Serving (Ro 12:7) |
| ☐ Giving (Ro 12:8) | ☐ Mercy (Ro 12:8) |
| ☐ Faith (1Co 12:9) | ☐ Healing (1Co 12:9) |
| ☐ Miracles (1Co 12:28) | ☐ Helps (1Co 12:28) |
| ☐ Encouraging (Ro 12:8) | |
| ☐ Leadership (Ro 12:8) | |
| ☐ Prophecy (1Co 12:10) | |
| ☐ Tongues (1Co 12:10) | |
| ☐ Discernment (1Co 12:10) | |
| ☐ Administration (1Co 12:28) | |
| ☐ Word of wisdom (1Co 12:8) | |
| ☐ Word of knowledge (1Co 12:8) | |

(Ro = Book of Romans; 1Co = 1st Corinthians; 1Ti = 1st Timothy)

For Further Study:

Read Hebrews 2:3-4.
To what do the gifts of the Holy Spirit testify?

For Further Study:

Compare the cowardice of Peter in Luke 22:54-62 with his courage in Acts 2:14-41. The Spirit made all the difference!

You find welling up from within a boldness to share your faith with others. How else could the same disciples who abandoned Jesus before his crucifixion speak out forcefully in his name at Pentecost? Their Lord had already foreseen it: “But you will receive *power* when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...” (Acts 1:8).

I needed that power on a recent flight to Cleveland. As I took my seat by the aisle, I sensed the Holy Spirit wanted me to talk with the two ladies beside me. In fact, before I could even get my seat belt buckled, the lady in the center asked, “Are you a preacher?” That was all the confirmation I needed.

The ladies were traveling to a psychology conference in Canada. As we spoke frankly about child-raising, motives for living, and other sensitive issues, two things became evident. First, these ladies were strongly opposed to a biblical worldview. They weren’t interested in polite discussion—they wanted to roast me. Second, these two weren’t the only ones listening. It seemed like everyone around us was tuning in as I used Scripture to discuss the benefits of spanking and the dangers of “self-esteem.”

The lady by the window made little effort to mask her disdain at what I was saying. Finally she rolled over and went to sleep. But after a few moments of silence the lady beside me said, “You know, it wasn’t a coincidence you sat here. I needed to hear some of these things.”

Did she throw herself down in the aisle and cry out for God’s forgiveness? No—but it appeared she had moved a few steps closer to receiving Christ. And her friend, while outwardly unchanged, had at least heard the truth.

How did this happen? I deserve no credit. The Holy Spirit motivated me to witness—and gave me boldness to declare God’s truth in a rather intimidating setting.

10. The Spirit counsels and helps you. Imagine the disciples’ sorrow as the truth sank in: their Master was

leaving. Not only would he be crucified, but he would soon return to his Father in heaven. Yet after announcing this, Jesus quickly assured them he would not leave them alone: “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it nei-

“ The Holy Spirit is intended to be real, powerful, and lovingly intimate in Christians’ lives. He becomes just as much to us as if we actually possessed the personal companionship of Jesus of Nazareth, walking and talking with us along the way, and pervading our lives with His Presence.⁹ ”

— Donald Gee

ther sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you” (John 14:16-17).

What did Jesus mean when he called the Holy Spirit the “Counselor”? The word in Greek is *parakletos*. According to theologian Stanley Horton, it speaks of “one called to help, aid, advise, or counsel someone.”¹⁰

The Spirit was no second-string substitute. “I tell you the truth,” said Jesus, “*it is for your good that I am going away*. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you” (John 16:7). Think about it. As exciting as it would have been to walk and talk with our Lord in the flesh, it’s actually better to walk with his Spirit, the Parakletos, who counsels us, helps us, and lives in us.

Drawing Closer to the Spirit

I trust by now we’ve gotten past the “gray, oblong blur” stage in our understanding of the Holy Spirit. We’ve seen that he is God. We’ve looked at ten of the ways he ministers in, to, and through the Christian. That leaves us with at least one more critical question: How does one relate to the Holy Spirit? How can you insure that he is living and working in you?

Those outside of Christ cannot relate to the Spirit of God. If you have been born again, however, be assured that the Spirit is already at work in you. Jesus said it this way: “The world cannot accept him [the Spirit], because it neither sees him nor knows him. *But you know him*, for he lives with you and will be in you” (John 14:17). The moment you were born again the Spirit came to dwell in you. That’s why Paul could encourage Timothy, “Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who *lives in us*” (2 Timothy 1:14).

Scripture makes a distinction between being *indwelt* by

the Spirit (which happens when you are born again) and being *baptized* in the Holy Spirit (which can occur when you are born again or some time later). The term baptism is significant. “It depicts vividly the idea of being enveloped in the reality of the Holy Spirit,” writes Dr. J. Rodman Williams.

Meditate on Romans 8:9-11. Do you see the benefits of having God’s Spirit living in you?

“ The Spirit promised by the Father, sent forth by the Son, surrounds, encloses, immerses those to whom He comes. Nothing is left untouched or unaffected. It is as if one were bathed in the reality of God.¹²

”

— J. Rodman Williams

For Further Study: For examples of the disciples being filled afresh with the Spirit after their initial experience at Pentecost, see Acts 4:8 and 4:31.

“Since to be baptized in water means literally to be immersed in, plunged under, and even drenched or soaked with, then to be baptized in the Holy Spirit can mean no less than that.”¹¹ Being baptized in the Spirit is a distinct event through which the believer gains an increased awareness of God’s presence and ability to exercise the powers of the age to come. Few ever forget this encounter.

(If you’re not sure whether you’ve been baptized in the Spirit, then the chances are good that you have not been. What a wonderful experience awaits you! We’ll talk more about that in the next section.)

It is the Spirit’s work to baptize you into Christ (the new birth), but Christ’s work to baptize you in the Spirit. Though we are baptized in the Spirit just once, the Bible

shows the importance of being filled over and over with the Spirit. Peter, for example, was filled twice soon after his initial experience at Pentecost (see Acts 4:8 and 4:31). The late Arthur Wallis wrote,

We don’t need to be baptized in water every week, nor do we need a weekly baptism in the Spirit. But the first experience does need renewing or recharging, which is usually called being filled or anointed. There are many fillings or anointings, but only one baptism.¹³

When asked why he repeatedly petitioned the Lord to fill him with his Spirit, evangelist D.L. Moody responded, “Because I leak!” Don’t we all?

4 Pop Quiz! To make sure you have understood this potentially confusing topic, circle “T” or “F” for each of the following statements.

(Answers printed upside down at bottom of page.)

- The Holy Spirit dwells in all who are born again **T F**
- Even non-Christians have God’s Spirit in them **T F**
- Being “indwelt by the Spirit” and “baptized in the Spirit” refer to the same experience **T F**
- You can be born again without being baptized in the Spirit **T F**
- Christians can be filled repeatedly with the Spirit **T F**

Answers: T, T, F, F, T, T

How Can I Be Baptized in the Holy Spirit?

The invitation Jesus shouted out in the crowded streets of Jerusalem still stands today: “‘If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.’ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive” (John 7:37-39).

If you desire more of God’s Spirit, this passage shows that three things are necessary. I’m indebted to Arthur Wallis for the following concise summary:

Thirst—a deep longing for God to meet you in this way. God creates thirst and satisfies it. If you're not thirsty, ask God why. If you have been filled, thirst for more.

Come—to Jesus, who baptizes in the Spirit, and ask. God gives to those who ask (Luke 11:13). But more than asking is needed.

Drink—that means to lay hold of the blessing by faith. Jesus says, "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it [that's when you start drinking], and it will be yours" (Mark 11:24). Drinking is an act of faith.¹⁴

As you pursue baptism in the Spirit, get advice from a mature Christian with proven character who has had this experience. Several times in the Book of Acts, believers were baptized in the Spirit when others laid hands on them and prayed (Acts 8:17, 9:17, 19:6). Don't underestimate the power of this simple act.

“ Our greatest danger, I feel today, is to quench the Spirit. This is no age to advocate restraint; the church today does not need to be restrained, but to be aroused, to be awakened, to be filled with a Spirit of glory.¹⁵ ”

— D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

“Speaking in tongues” is one common indicator that someone has been baptized in the Holy Spirit. This is a phenomenon in which the Spirit supernaturally enables a believer to speak in a heavenly or earthly language previously unknown and unlearned. Because tongues are misunderstood by many

today, let's briefly discuss this particular spiritual gift.

Speaking in tongues was a prevalent feature of church life in the first century. Paul himself told the Corinthians, “I thank my God that I speak in tongues more than all of you” (1 Corinthians 14:18). He highlighted three benefits of this practice that should stimulate your interest:

■ “For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God” (1 Corinthians 14:2). Though unintelligible to you and others, tongues express praise and thanksgiving to God (1 Corinthians 14:16-17) and declare “the wonders of God” (Acts 2:11).

■ “Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit” (1 Corinthians 14:2). When you don't know exactly how to articulate what is on your heart, speaking in tongues enables your spirit to commune directly with God.

■ “He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself” (1

“ We should make a deliberate effort at the outset of every day to recognize the person of the Holy Spirit...We should continue to walk throughout the day in a relationship of communication and communion with the Spirit mediated through our knowledge of the word, relying upon every office of the Holy Spirit's role...mentioned in Scripture.¹⁶

— Richard Lovelace

Corinthians 14:4). As the church at Corinth proved, this can easily get out of control. But who doesn't need edifying from time to time? When you exercise the gift of speaking in tongues, you will receive fresh strength and hope in your inner man. One can be baptized in the Spirit without receiving tongues, but it is a gift well worth pursuing.

For Further Study: To see the main purpose of tongues and all other spiritual gifts, read 1 Corinthians 14:26.

As we bring this section to a close, I'm painfully aware that I may have raised more questions than I answered. "There are few subjects harder to present from a highly doctrinal standpoint than the subject of the Holy Spirit," notes pastor Dick Iverson. I fully agree—especially in a chapter this brief.

I will be satisfied if these pages have made you a little more thirsty for the Spirit. And I encourage you to read the books recommended on the next page. They go into much greater depth explaining the work and person of the Holy Spirit. I have no doubt they will persuade you even more of this chapter's main point: Being baptized in the Holy Spirit may be the most important decision you will ever make as a Christian. ■

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What kinds of life circumstances could make a person "thirsty" for the Spirit's presence and power?
2. Without looking, can you recall five things the Spirit does for us?
3. Are you currently facing a decision or situation in which you need God's guidance?
4. Identify one specific thing the Holy Spirit has taught you.
5. What do you think it means to "live by the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25)?

6. How did you answer Question 3 about spiritual gifts on page 45?

7. Why should you be *baptized* in the Holy Spirit if he already dwells in you?

8. Do you have any other questions or comments about this chapter?

**RECOMMENDED
READING** *Surprised by the Power of the Spirit* by Jack Deere (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1993)

Joy Unspeakable by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1984)

What the Bible Says About the Holy Spirit by Stanley Horton (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1976)