

HOLY SPIRIT



SHEPHERDCHURCH

LESSON 2: RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT

WELCOME

Think of a gift you were really hoping for. Why did it mean so much to you, and how did you react when you received it?

WORSHIP

As a Life Group, read **Psalms 143** (maybe ask each group member to take a turn reading a verse). Then, discuss the following question for a few minutes:

- Where do you most need the Holy Spirit's guidance right now?

After the discussion, say a brief prayer concluding this section of the lesson.

*****Below are seven discussion questions/prompts. There's no pressure to cover every question. As a Life Group, feel free to choose the questions/prompts that you want to cover and use the rest for personal reflection and deeper study during the week. If you haven't already, watch the video lesson on Shepherd Church's [Life Groups webpage](#).**

WORD

1. In **Acts 2:37**, what happened to the people after they heard Peter's sermon, and why does it matter?

2. In **Acts 2:38–39**, what stands out to you about the words “gift” and “promise,” and what do they tell us about the Holy Spirit?

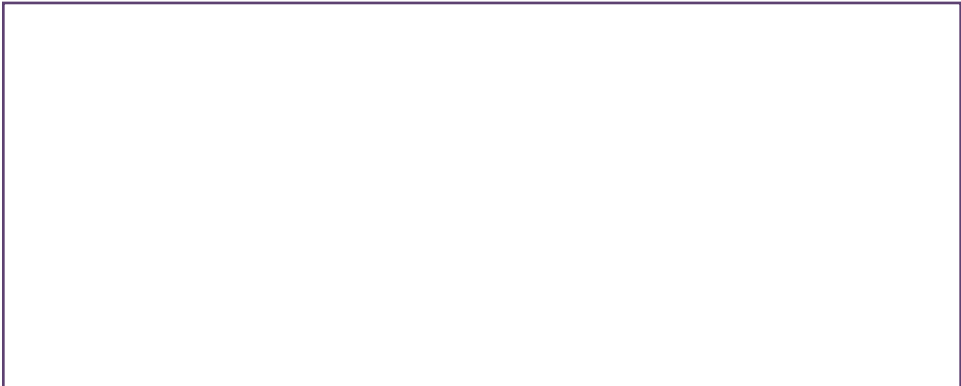
3. What do **John 3:5–8** and **Acts 2:38** teach about the Holy Spirit's role and work in conversion?



4. What do you learn about the Holy Spirit from **John 7:38–39**? What are some ways people today try to satisfy their thirst without Jesus?



5. What does **Ephesians 1:13–14** teach you about your security and identity in Jesus, and what difference should that make in how you make decisions and handle challenges?



WITNESS

How can **Acts 2:39** motivate you and give you confidence as you share your faith with others?

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DEEPER STUDY FOR THIS WEEK

This section is designed to help you keep growing in your faith throughout the week by reflecting on what you discussed in your Life Group and studying passages/concepts related to the lesson. As you spend time with these prompts, ask God to speak to you, apply His Word to your life, and help you take your next step with Jesus. Go at your own pace, and invite the Holy Spirit to guide your time with Him.

- Review anything in the WORD section that either was not covered during your Life Group or that you want to take a deeper dive into.

- Memorize **Acts 2:38** or **Acts 2:38–39**.

- The Spirit's Work in New Creation

Read the following passages about the Holy Spirit's work in a Christian's new birth and spiritual renewal: **Job 33:4; John 3:5–8; 14:15–18, 26; 15:26–27; 16:6–8; Acts 2:38–39; Romans 8:11, 19–23; and 2 Corinthians 3:17–18**. Then, write down your answers to the following four questions:

- o What do these passages say about the Spirit's work in a Christian's life? Try making a comprehensive list from these passages.
- o How do these passages warn against ignoring the Holy Spirit?
- o Which promise about the Holy Spirit gives you the most hope and why?
- o How do these passages challenge, expand, and/or affirm your view of the Holy Spirit?
- o What example of following the Holy Spirit can you imitate this week?

- The Holy Spirit in Jesus' Earthly Life

Read **Matthew 1:18–20; 3:16–17; 12:18, 28; Luke 1:35; 4:1, 18; John 1:32–33; 20:21–22; Acts 1:2; Romans 8:11; and Hebrews 9:14**. Then, answer the following questions:

- o What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus? How did the Spirit work in Jesus' life?
- o Why do you think Jesus, even though He is fully God, chose to live and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit?
- o If Jesus depended on the Holy Spirit throughout His earthly life, what does that teach us about our own need for the Holy Spirit?