

C O M E

Holy Spirit

SIMPLE PRACTICES FOR PARTNERING
WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

PRACTICE: READING SCRIPTURE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

“For the word of God is alive and powerful.
It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword,
cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow.
It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.”

Heb. 4:12

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Introduction

Jesus told his followers that it was better that He was going to the Father because the Holy Spirit would come and reveal to them, and even to us, what “the Father is saying and doing”. Jesus lived life and did ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit. Now, He invites us to do the same. The Come, Holy Spirit Practice Series is a set of simple practices to help ANYONE become familiar with the Holy Spirit and learn to “partner” with him in everyday life... just as Jesus did.

How To Use These Practices

This series contains ten practices related to partnership with the Holy Spirit in everyday life. Each prompt/practice contains an intro, a Scripture, a suggested practice exercise, things to notice, and journal space in which to document your experience with that specific practice.

Participants can spend as much time on one practice as they feel is appropriate.

These practices are personal. They are also short enough to be shared and interacted with in any type of group setting.

The important thing is for anyone who desires to grow in life with the Holy Spirit to feel free to work through these practices and learn her/his rhythm with the Holy Spirit - everyday.

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Intro:

The purpose of this practice is to invite the Holy Spirit into your personal discipline of Scripture reading. As Hebrews says, “the word of God is living...” It’s dynamic. We can read the same passage at a different time and receive a totally different perspective. When we invite the Spirit, the dynamic activity can kick up another notch.

Prompt:

Settle yourself in a quiet area. If you have a pre-selected passage, turn there in your Bible. Take a few breaths to calm your body and brain. Open your hands, palms up, into a position of receiving. Gently pray, “Come, Holy Spirit... open your Word to me today.” Then read. Notice what comes to your head. You may notice certain words “jumping off the page”. Ask the Spirit what it means. Notice the impressions you hear or see after asking this.

If you don’t have a pre-selected passage, follow the directions from above and then wait. You may get a scripture reference or hear the words of a passage as the Spirit shares. Look it up OR let your Bible fall open to any page and see where the Spirit draws you. Read until you are out of time or sense the time is done.

Things to Notice: Markers of Reading Scripture with the Holy Spirit

- Practice of Scripture reading becomes a more dynamic experience.
- Words of Scripture passage may seem highlighted or “jump off the page”.
- Simultaneous interaction with God’s word and the Spirit can feel different & good.
- The Spirit may lead you to an unknown passage that is relevant for your life.
- The Spirit may show you a different way to think about a very familiar verse.

Journal:

Write down Scripture reference you read. What did the verse mean to you today? How are your impressions from this verse relevant to you or someone else you know? Record all the ideas you received while reading including how it felt to be “with the Spirit” and reading God’s word. Practice daily/weekly for several weeks.

