
ENABLE 3.2

Work of the Spirit - Knowing Jesus
Small Group Session Ten
Week Beginning 28th January



The Spirit of Truth

ENABLE is all about exploring the wonderful 'means' that God has given us as disciples to help us serve Him with the whole of our lives.

One of the most amazing promises that Jesus makes to His disciples is that He will ask His heavenly father to send us the gift of the Holy Spirit. God Himself will then come and make His home in all who believe in Him.

Last week, we looked at the first work of this Holy Spirit, giving us new life. This week, we are going to be thinking about the second work of this Holy Spirit. The Spirit doesn't just give us new life, He does it by enabling us to come to know Jesus for ourselves.

The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth. That is because the Holy Spirit is just like Jesus and Jesus is the truth - "I am the way, the truth and the life" (Jn 14:6). The role of the Spirit of Truth is to show us Jesus the truth.

The Spirit teaches us the truth about Jesus. Who He is, what He did, how He taught, why He died and rose. But the Holy Spirit does more than just teach us the truth about Jesus - as wonderful as that is. The Holy Spirit also enables us to know Jesus for ourselves.

We are going to explore this teaching in two parts. Firstly, we are going to think about the Holy Spirit's role in ensuring that the truth about Jesus is recorded in the Bible. Secondly, we are going to think about the Holy Spirit's role in our hearts, helping us know that truth about Jesus for ourselves.

"The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

John 14:21

Knowing Jesus

Some Christians think that it would have been amazing to have been alive 2000 years ago and to have seen Jesus in the flesh, listened to his teaching, watched his miracles. Some Christians think that they are missing out by not being able to see Jesus in the flesh today. In what ways do you agree with them? In what ways might you want to ask questions?

After Jesus' resurrection, I assume that it would have been possible for Jesus to remain living in our world. Yet Jesus says that it is **better** for us that He **goes away**. "...it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate (the Holy Spirit) will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you." John 16:7 The gift of the Holy Spirit means that Jesus is not limited to one place and one time in our world, but that all of us can know Him for ourselves. Lets explore how...

In the Apostles

The Spirit's work in the Apostles - The New Testament

First, we have the New Testament to tell us all about Jesus. How did the apostles who wrote most of (and stand behind all of) the New Testament get everything right? Well, wonderfully, the Holy Spirit's work in the apostles guarantees that they perfectly recorded the truth about Jesus. Have a look at some of the following verses. What do they tell us about the Holy Spirit's work in the Apostles?

John 14:25-26 / 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 & 13 / Ephesians 3:4-5 / 2 Peter 1:20-21

In what ways does that build your confidence in the Bible?

In what ways could this impact how you feel about the Bible?

In Us

The Spirit's work in Us

But more than the Spirit-inspired testimony to Jesus in the New Testament, we are also each given the Spirit who helps us (in our own hearts and minds) to understand these words. When we come to look at the Bible we need to pray that God, by His Spirit, will open blind eyes and help us to see the truth. Have a look at some of the following verses. What do they tell us about the Holy Spirit's work in us?

John 16:7-11 / 1 Corinthians 2:14-15 / 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5 / 2 Timothy 2:7

In what ways does that impact how we might approach the Bible?

So What?

In coming to understand and know Jesus, we are completely dependant on the Holy Spirit: i. to inspire the Bible and ii. to take that word and bring it home in our hearts and minds.

How might this teaching impact a Christian who is not really growing in their relationship with Jesus? How might this impact how we pray for (a) ourselves (b) non-Christian friends?

Now spend some time praying in response to everything you have seen in this session.





Spring Term Timetable

Introducing ENABLE - Central Meeting

7:30pm Thursday 11th January

Prayer Meeting Week

7:30pm 17th/18th January

Small Group Session 3.1

The Work of the Holy Spirit: New Life
Week beginning 21st January

Small Group Session 3.2

The Work of the Holy Spirit: Knowing Jesus
Week beginning 28th January

Small Group Session 3.3

The Work of the Holy Spirit: Adoption into God's Family
Week beginning 4th February

Half Term Break - Week beginning 11th February

Prayer Meeting Week

7:30pm 21st/22nd February

Small Group Session 3.4

Being Filled with the Holy Spirit
Week beginning 25th February

Small Group Session 3.5

Resisting the Holy Spirit
Week beginning 03 March

Small Group Session 3.6

Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Week beginning 10 March

Prayer Meeting Week

7:00pm Trinity Church - 20th March

support and
encouragement
to live for Jesus