

Lesson 4 – Not Alone (The Holy Spirit)

Introduction

When Jesus ascended into heaven, He did not abandon His disciples. Instead, He promised a Helper, Comforter, and Guide, the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is God's presence in us and with us, enabling us to live out our new life in Christ. Without Him, discipleship is impossible; with Him, discipleship becomes powerful and fruitful. This lesson shows us that we are never alone in our walk with God.

Teaching Session

1. Promise of the Spirit

John 14:16–18 (NIV)

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

- Jesus promised that the Spirit would dwell in believers permanently.
 - The Spirit is Advocate, Helper, and Comforter.
 - His presence assures us we are not abandoned.
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2. The Outpouring of the Spirit

Acts 2:1–4 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

- Pentecost marked the fulfillment of God's promise (Joel 2:28–29).
 - The Spirit empowers believers for witness and service.
 - The outpouring is for all who believe, not just a select few.
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3. Led by the Spirit

Romans 8:14–16 (NIV)

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.

- The Spirit assures us of our adoption and identity.
 - He leads us in decisions, convictions, and growth.
 - Life in the Spirit is marked by intimacy with the Father.
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4. The Spirit as Teacher and Guide

John 16:13 (NIV)

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the 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.

- The Spirit reveals truth, reminding us of Christ’s words.
 - He gives wisdom beyond human understanding.
 - He directs us into God’s will and future purpose.
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5. Power for Witness

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

- The Spirit equips us to share the gospel boldly.
 - Witness is not just by words, but by Spirit-empowered living.
 - Every disciple is called to Spirit-enabled mission.
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Study & Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to you personally that Jesus promised not to leave us as orphans?
2. How does the Pentecost event in Acts 2 demonstrate God’s desire for His people to live in power?
3. In what practical ways have you experienced being led by the Spirit?
4. How does the Spirit’s role as Teacher change the way you read Scripture or make decisions?

5. Why is it significant that the Spirit gives us power for *witness*, not just personal growth?
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Application & Reflection

- **Memory Verse:** *“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.”* (Romans 8:14, NIV)
- **Personal Reflection:** Write down an area of your life where you often feel alone or powerless. Pray specifically for the Spirit’s presence and guidance in that area.
- **Group Activity:** Share testimonies of times when the Spirit gave direction, comfort, or boldness. Then as a group, pray for fresh filling and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.