



forgotten GOD

a series on the Holy Spirit



wentzville
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Name:

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

WINTER 2020

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RESOURCES:

- *Forgotten God* by Frances Chan
- giftstest.com/allgifts

LETTER FROM KEITH

“Forgotten God” is kind of an odd term or title, isn’t it? But that is the title of the book written by pastor and church leader, Francis Chan, several years ago to address the concern of not living by the Holy Spirit in our churches or as Christ-followers. The very first sentence he writes in his book is simply:

“I am convinced there is a desperate need in the church for the Holy Spirit of God to be given room to have His way.”

Over the next four weeks, we want to look at what the Bible has to say about the person who inspired it, the Holy Spirit. We want to understand who the Holy Spirit is and how He changes our lives....if, we give Him room.

Throughout the history of the church (Big C), we’ve failed to really understand in our thinking, our theology, and our practice who the Holy Spirit is and how we are to walk in step with the Spirit in our individual lives and as a church.

I’m excited to spend the next several weeks on the Holy Spirit! We could spend months or even years doing a study of the Holy Spirit, but my hope would be that we would remember...remember that God is with each of us, by His Spirit, that He desires to guide us and give direction to our busy, noisy lives. Jesus didn’t just save us from our sin, he also marked us by giving us His Spirit so that our lives would be transformed and we would walk in His steps...let’s not forget!

Blessings,

Keith Comp
Senior Minister

Spiritual Gifts & Descriptions:

This list of gifts, along with the descriptions and references, are collected from giftstest.com/allgifts.

Administration

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks.

Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28

Apostleship

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training.

Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14

Craftsmanship

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build, and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications.

Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3

Discernment

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood, to distinguish between right and wrong motives and the spiritual forces at work in situations.

Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6

Evangelism

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born-again Christian.

Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14

Exhortation/Encouragement

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to strengthen, comfort or urge others to action through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth.

Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25

Faith

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life.

Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11

Giving

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth.

Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Cor 8:1-7, 9:2-7 65

Healing

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying-on of hands for the healing of physical, mental and spiritual sickness.

Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28

Helps

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry with the ability to often see the need before others do.

Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Cor 12:28

Hospitality

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church.

Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9

Intercession

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results.

Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16

Word of Knowledge

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to bring truth to a situation by supernatural revelation. This is often accompanied by a word from God.

Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3

Leadership

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea.

Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17

Mercy

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way.

Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thess. 5:14

Miracles

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction.

Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28

Pastor/Shepherd

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues.

John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3

Prophecy

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to communicate God's truth and heart in a way that calls people to a right relationship with God.

Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

Service

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ.

Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14

Teaching

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians.

Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14

Tongues (and Interpretation)

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately.

Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14

Word of Wisdom

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to understand and to bring clarity to situations and circumstances often through applying the truths of Scripture in a practical way.

Acts 6:3, 10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

The purpose of this guide is to ignite a passion for the Bible in your daily life. God's Word is living, active, and useful for our lives, but so few Christians actually engage in it daily. We want to provide you with a resource that you can use on your own and with your Life Group to ignite and sustain this passion. We want to make God's Word our way.

SERMON NOTES:

Bring this workbook to church each Sunday. As you listen to the sermon, make a note when you hear something that surprises you, intrigues you, bothers you, challenges you, or encourages you.

CONNECT QUESTIONS:

These questions will help you and your group members become more comfortable with talking and sharing with each other. Not only will you learn more about one-another, the questions will help to steer the discussion in the direction of the topic.

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION:

These questions are the "meat" of the discussion and will point back to the sermon each week. Feel free to read and answer these questions before your group meets. They will also help you dig deeper into the Scriptures during your group discussions.

CHANGE QUESTIONS:

At the end of Jesus' most famous sermon, he says that if you do not put his words into practice then you are a fool [Matthew 7:24-27]. Life transformation is the ultimate goal of a follower of Christ. Feel free to answer these questions out loud when your leader reads them or you can quietly reflect and write a response in your workbook.

PRAY FOR ONE-ANOTHER:

Please focus this time on *your own personal* praises and requests instead of listing all of the bad things that happened to someone you know. We challenge you to get "deep" with one-another relationally, which means becoming a little bit vulnerable as you are honest with one-another.

PRAY FOR THE MISSIONS OF THE WEEK:

WCC supports many wonderful missionaries and organizations all over the world. We are committed to support them with our finances as well as our prayers and encouragement. Ask God to work in their lives and through their ministries to ignite a passion for Jesus in others.

DAILY DEVOTION:

Be consistent, honest, and intentional with this time and you will not regret it. The whole point of this workbook is to make the sermons and Scriptures stick with you in your daily walk with Christ. Digging in to God's Word and applying it to your daily life is perhaps the best way to solidify His truth into your heart and your life.

Week 1 - Person

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

WEEK 1 - PERSON

CONNECT QUESTIONS

1. **When was a time you forgot something important? What happened?**
2. **What do you do when you see someone you recognize but do not remember who they are?**
3. **If you did not have caller ID, what voices could you hear and immediately recognize?**

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. **What is your basic understanding of who the Holy Spirit is and what He does? Where did you get this understanding?**
2. **Why do you think the Holy Spirit is often forgotten about and many Christians do not give Him as much thought and attention as God and Jesus?**
3. **Read John 15:26. What does this show you about the relationship between God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit?**

4. Read John 14:15-17. Verse 17 says the Holy Spirit is “with us” and “in us”. Why do you think Jesus gives both of these descriptions?
5. Francis Chan describes three reasons why we might become distanced from the Holy Spirit: comfort, volume [noise], and personal baggage. Discuss how each of these can cause us to forget the Holy Spirit.
6. If we have the Holy Spirit in our lives, why can’t we just assume that whatever we hear, think, or feel is a message from God? Read 1 John 4:1-3.
7. Read 1 John 4:4-6 again. What are some questions we can ask in order to “test the spirits” and be sure something is really from God?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. When have you been guilty of forgetting about the Holy Spirit? Why?
2. What obstacles are keeping you from fully remembering and acknowledging the Holy Spirit in your daily life?
3. What might your life look like this week if you fully remembered the Holy Spirit?

PRAY FOR ONE-ANOTHER

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

PRAY FOR THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

Team Expansion: Tim & Amy Maxson

The Maxsons work at Fellowship Dubai church in the Middle East and are making disciples of migrant workers. The Maxson family has five children. teamexpansion.org

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 1-3]

DAY 1:

“Don’t you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?”
[1 Corinthians 3:16 NLT]

- ▶ How does it make you feel to think of your body as the temple of God? What responsibilities does that bring to your mind?

- ▶ Do you feel the presence of the Holy Spirit living inside of you? How has it affected your life?

DAY 2:

“²¹Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, ²²set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.”
[2 Corinthians 1:21-22 NIV]

- ▶ Being anointed means you are special and you are set apart for a specific purpose. How does that make you feel? What does it inspire you to do?

- ▶ The Holy Spirit has been placed inside of you as a deposit for your eternal life in Christ. Spend some time praying and thanking God for this amazing guarantee!

DAY 3:

“And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago.”
[Ephesians 1:13 NLT]

- ▶ When did you first believe in God? Who, or what, influenced you to believe and accept the Good News that God saves you through Jesus?

- ▶ This verse shows how amazing it is that God promised his Holy Spirit to everyone, even Gentiles like us. Have you shared this Good News with anyone? Why or why not?

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 4-6]

DAY 4:

“The Spirit is God’s guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.”
[Ephesians 1:14 NLT]

- ▶ People give an inheritance to those whom they love and trust. What do you think it means to be purchased as God’s own people?

- ▶ According to the last sentence, why did God give us the Holy Spirit to guarantee our inheritance? Have you done this? Do it now!

DAY 5:

“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.”
[John 6:63 NIV]

- ▶ The Holy Spirit and the words of God are full of life. Have you ever experienced this? When?

- ▶ The life that the Holy Spirit gives is for now and for eternity. How do you think these will be different? Praise God for what you have received and what you will receive.

DAY 6:

“The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”
[John 3:8 NIV]

- ▶ The Old Testament and New Testament words for “spirit” and “wind” are the same. Why do you think Jesus used this play on words when talking to a religious leader?

- ▶ Have you ever seen the direct work of the Holy Spirit? How can you seek to find where the Holy Spirit is coming from or going in your life today?

Week 2 - Power

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

WEEK 2 - POWER

CONNECT QUESTIONS

1. When have you accomplished something you did not think you could complete by your own power?
2. What is the most powerful force of nature you have seen in action?
3. What is the most powerful man-made force you have seen in action?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Look at the list of things the Holy Spirit does on page 31. Read through the list as a group. Which of these were a new understanding for you? Which of these is your favorite?
2. In the message we learned about the indwelling, infilling, and enacting of the Holy Spirit. What do each of these mean?
3. Read John 16:5-7. What was your reaction to the phrase “the Holy Spirit inside us is better than Jesus beside us”? What do you think this means?

4. **Read John 16:8-11. Jesus says it is the job of the Holy Spirit to prove the world is wrong about 3 things. What are these and what do they mean for us?**

5. **Which of these three are the biggest challenge for you and why? What steps do you need to take to become more attuned with the Holy Spirit?**

6. **Read John 16:12-15. What does it mean to be guided into all truth? How could this affect your life if it were something you sought after each day?**

7. **What is the danger of thinking of your conscience as the Holy Spirit? [See Romans 2:15 and Titus 1:15]**

8. **Instead of asking “what is God’s will for my life,” what are some alternative questions we can ask of the Holy Spirit?**

CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. What can you do this week to realize and recognize the promptings of the Holy Spirit?
2. What may be preventing you from living with the fullness of the power of the Holy Spirit?
3. What do you feel the Holy Spirit is leading you to change in your life today?

PRAY FOR ONE-ANOTHER

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

PRAY FOR THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

HOPE Ministries Food Pantry

HOPE provides families in St. Charles county assistance with food and physical needs. You can donate non-perishable food items to this ministry by visiting the food cart in the WCC café. Take home a bag and bring it back with the items requested for the month.

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 1-3]

DAY 1:

“But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.”
[John 16:7 NIV]

- ▶ Who has been an advocate for you when you needed it the most? How does this word help you to understand the purpose of the Holy Spirit?

- ▶ Why do you think Jesus says it is better that He goes away? How are we better off to have the Holy Spirit inside us instead of Jesus beside us?

DAY 2:

“When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment.”
[John 16:8 NIV]

- ▶ When has the Holy Spirit helped you realize the impact of your sin? How did this judgment help you change?

- ▶ The Holy Spirit leads us away from sin and into righteousness. Where do you think He is specifically leading you today?

DAY 3:

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.”
[Acts 4:31 NIV]

- ▶ What is the most powerful thing you have ever seen? How does that relate to the power of the Holy Spirit?

- ▶ What was the natural result of this group of followers being filled with the Holy Spirit? What is keeping you from doing this too?

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 4-6]

DAY 4:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”
[Romans 15:13 NIV]

- ▶ Who specifically do you struggle to trust? Do you struggle to trust God?

- ▶ The power of the Holy Spirit gives you overflowing joy, peace, and trust. What will you do with that today?

DAY 5:

“But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don’t need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.”
[1 John 2:27 NLT]

- ▶ What is the most important lesson in life, family, or business that someone has taught you? How did you learn it from them?

- ▶ The Holy Spirit leads us to truth...every time. How do we find this truth? Where can you seek it today?

DAY 6:

“Everything is pure to those whose hearts are pure. But nothing is pure to those who are corrupt and unbelieving, because their minds and consciences are corrupted.”
[Titus 1:15 NLT]

- ▶ Those who have the Holy Spirit are led to purity through our belief in Jesus. When do you find it difficult to remain pure?

- ▶ What places, people, or objects lead you impurity? Purity? Where is the Holy Spirit leading you right now?

Week 3 - Promise

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

WEEK 3 - PROMISE

CONNECT QUESTIONS

1. What are some natural abilities you have always had?
2. What are some special talents that you have developed through life or in the workplace?
3. When have you ever used your abilities or talents to help someone else?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Before hearing the sermon, what spiritual gifts would you have listed if someone asked?
2. Look back at pages 4-5 for descriptions of the 22 spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible. Have someone read the list to the group. Which of these gifts are you unfamiliar with? Which would you like to learn more about?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-6. Why do you think Paul needed to tell the Corinthians that there are different kinds of gifts? Why would he need to say God is at work in all of them?

4. What is the difference between a spiritual gift and a special talent?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. There are a few places in the New Testament where various spiritual gifts are listed. Why do you think Paul lists some of the more charismatic gifts here?
6. After listing these spiritual gifts, Paul spends the rest of chapter 12 talking about unity and diversity in the church body. He ends with a command to “eagerly desire the greater gifts” in 1 Corinthians 12:31. What do you think this is referring to?
7. 1 Corinthians 13 is about love and unity in how we use our gifts in the church. Chapter 14 gives instructions for how to properly use spiritual gifts. Why do you think Paul would need to give these instructions?
8. Why would it be beneficial to discover and develop your spiritual gift[s]?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. When have you been guilty of misusing [or not using] a gift or talent that God has given to you?
2. Which spiritual gifts do you feel you are gifted with? How will you discover and develop them?
3. How will you use your spiritual gifts to bring love, unity, and health to WCC?

PRAY FOR ONE-ANOTHER

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

PRAY FOR THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

Outreach International - Mexico | Josh & Susan Sanchez

This mission, called Me & My House Ministries, is a church plant in Colima City. Their goal is to begin a church planting movement within the region.

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 1-3]

DAY 1:

“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”
[1 Corinthians 12:7 NIV]

- ▶ The Holy Spirit is manifested in each and every one of us! How does that make you feel?

- ▶ What is the ultimate reason the Holy Spirit manifests Himself in each of us? How do you contribute to the common good of your church body?

DAY 2:

“All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”
[1 Corinthians 12:11 NIV]

- ▶ There are many spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible. Which ones are of interest to you? Which ones do not interest you?

- ▶ The Holy Spirit can give anyone any gift He desires, but it is up to us to use it. How can you keep from squandering your gifts?

DAY 3:

“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”
[Galatians 5:16 NIV]

- ▶ What are the desires of your flesh? Why is it so tempting to gratify them?

- ▶ What do you think your life would look like 6 months from now if you were to walk by the Spirit each day from now until then?

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 4-6]

DAY 4:

“For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.”
[Galatians 5:17 NIV]

- ▶ When have you done something in which you immediately regretted? Did you feel the conflict talked about in this verse?

- ▶ Why do you think our natural desires of the flesh are so contrary to the Holy Spirit? How can you win this conflict today?

DAY 5:

“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.”
[Romans 12:3 NIV]

- ▶ Why do you think these instructions are given right before a list of various spiritual gifts?

- ▶ How do you think of yourself? How do you view the gifts God has given to you?

DAY 6:

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”
[1 Corinthians 12:27 NIV]

- ▶ How does the illustration of a body working together relate to a healthy church?

- ▶ What is your part in the body of Christ? How can you be a contributing part of the body this week?

Week 4 - Presence

WEEK 4 - PRESENCE

CONNECT QUESTIONS

1. What is a bad habit you used to have [or perhaps still struggle with]?
2. What is a good habit you have developed as you have grown older and more mature?
3. When you were younger, who or what influenced the way you lived your life [for example: clothing, hair style, way you spoke, activities, attitude, etc.]?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read Romans 8:1-4. The title of this section is called “Life Through the Spirit.” Why do you think this section begins with talking about sin and condemnation before it talks about how the Holy Spirit works through us and in us?
2. Read Romans 8:5-8. How many times is the word “mind” used? Why do you think the mind is mentioned so many times in this battle between living by the flesh vs. Holy Spirit?

3. Read Romans 8:9-11. According to each of these verses, what are some benefits of accepting Jesus and receiving the Holy Spirit in our lives?
4. Read Romans 8:12-13. What is the result of living by the flesh instead of the Holy Spirit? What do you think it means to “put to death the misdeeds of the body”?
5. If someone was living according to the flesh, how would you be able to tell? [See Galatians 5:19-21]
6. If someone was living according to the Holy Spirit in their life, how would you be able to tell? [See Galatians 5:22-26]

CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. Have you truly been transformed by the Holy Spirit from the inside-out?
2. What work does the Holy Spirit still need to complete in your life?
3. What would your life look like in 1 year if you fully lived a Spirit-filled life? Where do you need to start today?

PRAY FOR ONE-ANOTHER

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

PRAY FOR THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

Central Christian College of the Bible

The goal of Central Christian College of the Bible is to raise up servant leaders for the church and to do so as affordably as possible. CCCB believes so completely in what their students will do for Christ that they want to not only equip them with a quality education, but an affordable one so their future ministry will not be burdened by financial stress. That is why CCCB offers a Full-Tuition Scholarship and will continue to do so as long as there are means. cccb.edu

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 1-3]

DAY 1:

“these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.”
[1 Corinthians 2:10 NIV]

- ▶ When have you had a realization of something which felt like God was revealing something specifically to you?

- ▶ If the Holy Spirit searches the deep things of God, what do you think He wants to teach you today? Will you listen?

DAY 2:

“The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.”
[1 Corinthians 2:14 NIV]

- ▶ As Christians, how do we better discern the Spirit of God? Why doesn't it always feel like this?

- ▶ What would you like to discern through the Holy Spirit today? Ask him. Seek him. Follow him today.

DAY 3:

“And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”
[1 Corinthians 6:11 NIV]

- ▶ How is your life as a Christian different from your life before Jesus?

- ▶ You have been washed, sanctified, and justified by the blood of Jesus and through the Holy Spirit. What does that mean for your life today?

DAILY DEVOTION [DAYS 4-6]

DAY 4:

“The acts of the flesh are obvious...I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”
[Galatians 5:19-21 NIV]

- ▶ Read these verses in your Bible. Which acts of the flesh stand out to you? What is the result of those who live like this?

- ▶ If someone were to look at your life as an outsider, would they say you live like anything in this list? Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you and guide you where you need to change.

DAY 5:

“²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control.”
[Galatians 5:22-23 NIV]

- ▶ The fruit of a plant is usually appealing to others and is used for reproduction. How does this metaphor relate to the Holy Spirit?

- ▶ Which of these fruit do you see in your life? Which fruit do you need to focus on this week?

DAY 6:

“²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”
[Galatians 5:24-25 NIV]

- ▶ Have you really crucified the desires of your flesh, or have you merely pacified them?

- ▶ How can you live by the Spirit today? What steps do you need to take to keep in step with the Spirit?

WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES IN US AND THROUGH US:

Forgotten God by Francis Chan pg. 74-76

1. The Spirit helps us speak when we are in precarious situations and need to bear witness [Mark 13:11; Luke 12:12].
2. The Counselor teaches and reminds us of what we need to know and remember. He is our comforter, our advisor, our encourager, and our strength. He guides us in the way we should go [Psalm 143:10; John 14-16; Acts 9:31; 13:2; 15:28; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10; 1 John 5:6-8].
3. From the Spirit we receive power to be God's witnesses to the ends of the earth. It is the Spirit who draws people to the gospel, the Spirit who equips us with the strength we need to accomplish God's purposes. The Holy Spirit not only initially draws people to God, He also draws believers closer to Jesus [Acts 1:8; Romans 8:26; Ephesians 3:16-19]
4. By the Power of the Spirit we put to death the misdeeds of the body. The Spirit sets us free from the sins we cannot get rid of on our own. This is a lifelong process we entered into, in partnership with the Spirit, when we first believed [Romans 8:2]
5. Through the Spirit we have received a spirit of adoption as children, which leads us into intimacy with the Father, instead of a relationship based on fear and slavery. The Spirit bears witness to us that we are His children [Romans 8:15-16].
6. The Holy Spirit convicts people of sin. He does this both before we initially enter into right relationship with God and as we journey through this life as believers [John 16:7-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:5].
7. The Spirit brings us life and freedom. Where the Spirit is, there is freedom, not bondage or slavery. In our world that is plagued with death, this is a profound truth that points to real hope [Romans 8:10-11; 2 Corinthians 3:17].
8. By the power of the Holy Spirit we abound with hope because our God is a God of hope, who fills His children with all joy and peace [Romans 15:13].
9. As members of God's kingdom community, each of us is given a manifestation of the Spirit in our lives for the purpose of the common good. We all have something to offer because of what the Spirit gives to us [1 Corinthians 12:7].
10. The fruit of being led by the Spirit of God includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These attitudes and actions will characterize our lives as we allow ourselves to be grown and molded by the Spirit. The Spirit is our sanctifier [2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:22-23].

The fruit of the spirit

is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self-control.

Against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23