

## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month: Embracing the Holy Spirit

Text for the Week: Acts 1:15-26

Message for the Week: "Moving On"

Theme for the Week: Waiting, Praying, Doing

# Week 5

## Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

If you had an important decision to make, whom would you ask for help?

### **Preparation:**

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

#### Read:

Read Acts 1: 15-26 out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them those who are with you.

### **Respond / Reflect:**

Where have you seen God's will be different from your will or different from what you prayed for?

What does the power of Christ's resurrection mean for us who live/die in shame, in pain, in guilt?

What do you need to do to arrange your life in order to draw power from the Holy Spirit?

What practices might you need to introduce?

What would Covenant Church need to do to arrange its life in order to draw power from the Holy Spirit?

How might joining others in prayer around a common mission help enhance your own prayer life?

How does this pattern of decision-making compare with how you make important decisions?

#### "Try It!"

We've been praying, "God fill me with your Spirit."
This week add, "Holy Spirit, what do You want me to do?"

Allow **people** to prompt this prayer in you.

When you meet people, when they call or text you, when someone cuts you off driving allow that to prompt you, "Holy Spirit, what do You want me to do?"

Allow your **feelings** to prompt you. When you experience fear, gratitude, anger, or joy; when you're tempted or bored, ask, "Holy Spirit, what do You want me to do?"

Allow the day's **events** to prompt you. When you step into the meeting, open a book to read, sit down for a meal, pray, "Holy Spirit, what do You want me to do."

**Prayer:** Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today. Also, spend time in prayer for the other person(s) who are with you...

"Father, I need You. I hunger and thirst for a more vital relationship with You. I admit that I have often tried to be in control of my own life. As a result, I have sinned against You.

"Thank You for forgiving my sins through Christ's death on the cross. I now confess and turn from my sins. I surrender the control of my life to the Lord Jesus. By faith, I ask You to fill me with the Holy Spirit as You commanded me to be filled. You promised to fill me if I ask according to Your will. I pray this in the authority of the name of Jesus Christ.

"To demonstrate my faith, I now thank You for filling me with Your Holy Spirit and for taking control of my life. Amen."