



# The Promise of the Spirit

## LEADER NOTES

Review the Guidelines each time you have a new member join your group or once a month.

- **Help your group feel the weight of the moment.**

This is not a quiet teaching moment. Jesus is with His disciples on the night before the cross. They are unsettled, confused, and trying to process what He is saying. Let the group feel that tension before rushing to the promise.

- **Keep bringing them back to the main point.** Jesus is not leaving His people on their own. He promises another Helper. The Spirit is not a vague force or religious feeling. He is the personal presence of God with His people.

- **Draw out the word “another.”** Jesus is saying the Spirit will continue what He has been doing with them. He will not replace Jesus. He will make the presence of Jesus real to His followers in an ongoing way.

- **Slow down on the personal nature of the Spirit.** “This matters.” The Spirit is not just power for ministry. He is Counselor, Advocate, Comforter, and Helper. Help the group see that life with God is meant to be relational, not mechanical.

- **Surface self reliance with care.** Most people will not say that they are relying on themselves more than they are God. But it shows up in stress, control, prayerlessness, and always feeling like everything rest on them. Let people name that honestly without making the room feel too heavy.

- **Keep it practical.** Ask where people most need the Spirit’s help right now. Home. Work. Stress. Parenting. Decision making. Temptation. Conflict. Bring it down to real life so the passage does not stay abstract.

- **Leave space for response.** Do not rush past the Hands Question. Give people a moment to think about one daily place where they need to pause and say, “Helper, help me.” Small, honest action is better than big vague talk.

- **Share & record prayer request.**

- **Ask a volunteer to close in prayer.**

- **Follow up throughout the week.**

- **PLEASE TAKE ATTENDANCE.**

## TARGET

**Topic:** The Promise of Another Helper

**Take Away:** Jesus does not leave His people on their own. He gives the Holy Spirit to be with us, guide us, and keep forming us in faithful obedience.

**God Stories:** A God Story is an undeniable encounter or experience that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

**Ice Breaker Question:** Who was the best counselor you ever had? Why was this person so special?

**This Week's Passage:** *John 14:15-27*

**Share background:** *It is the night of the Last Supper, just hours before Jesus' arrest and crucifixion. Jesus has just washed the disciples' feet, predicted Judas's betrayal, foretold Peter's denial, and announced that He is going away—challenging their expectations of a triumphant Messiah and redefining faith around trust, love, and obedience rather than national restoration. The disciples are confused and fearful as their rabbi and leader speaks of separation and suffering, threatening the community they have formed around Him. Many of these disciples have left livelihoods to follow Jesus, so the prospect of His departure raises anxiety about security, provision, and purpose. In this emotionally charged context, Jesus introduces the promise of “another Advocate”...and now the story from God's Word.*

**Tell the story. Rebuild the story. Read the story from God's Word.**

**Head Question:** *What does Jesus promise about the Holy Spirit in this passage, and how would that have encouraged the disciples in that moment?*

**Heart Question:** *What most often crowds out your awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence in your life, and why?*

**Hands Question:** *What daily moment will you use to pause and pray, “Helper, help me”?*

**ASSIGN NEXT WEEKS STORY:** John 16:7-15