



# The Comforter Has Come

## LEADER NOTES

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

- **Keep the focus on Jesus' promise.** This passage is full of comfort. Jesus knows His disciples are troubled, and He does not leave them with fear. He gives them the promise of the Holy Spirit. Help your group see that the Spirit is God's gift to His people, not an abstract idea.
- **Tie conviction to grace.** When the Spirit convicts, He is not pushing people away from God. He is drawing them toward truth, repentance, and freedom. Help the group see conviction as an act of God's love, not just a feeling of guilt.
- **Show that the Spirit leads people toward Jesus.** The Spirit does not point attention to Himself. He leads people into truth and glorifies Christ. Keep bringing the conversation back to Jesus so the group sees that the Spirit's work always helps us know, trust, and follow Him more fully.
- **Make the questions personal.** The Heart Question can open the door to real honesty. Some people respond to conviction with surrender. Others respond with excuses, delay, shame, or resistance. Let people answer truthfully without feeling pressure to sound spiritual.
- **Bring guidance into everyday life.** The Hands Question should not stay vague. Help people name one real decision where they need the Spirit's guidance. This could be a conversation, a parenting issue, a work matter, a temptation, a financial choice, or a relationship conflict.
- **Watch for confusion about conviction.** Some in the group may confuse conviction with condemnation. Remind them that conviction is specific and leads toward repentance and hope. Condemnation leaves people feeling stuck and distant from God.
- **Give space for reflection before discussion.** Do not rush the room. Let people think for a moment before answering. A short pause may help quieter group members respond with more honesty and depth.
- **Share & record prayer request.**
- **Ask a volunteer to close in prayer.**
- **Follow up throughout the week.**
- **PLEASE TAKE ATTENDANCE.**

## TARGET

**Topic:** The Work of the Spirit Who Is Coming

**Take Away:** The Spirit convicts, guides into truth, and glorifies Christ. God-story: Share how the Spirit's conviction brought freedom

**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:** How are you at saying "goodbye"? Is it harder for you to be leaving home, or the one being left behind? Explain.

**This Week's Passage:** *John 16:7-15*

**Share background:** *Jesus is continuing His Upper Room discourse on the night before His crucifixion, within the setting of the Last Supper. Jesus has already warned the disciples that they will face hatred and persecution from the world and even from religious authorities, reflecting the deep conflict between His message and established Jewish leadership. The disciples are experiencing confusion and sorrow because Jesus has told them He is leaving, disrupting their close-knit relationship with Him as their teacher and leader. These ordinary men—fishermen and laborers—are being prepared for a global mission that will depend not on status or resources but on divine empowerment. Jesus explains that His departure is necessary so that...and now the story from God's Word.*

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

**Head Question:** *What are the three things Jesus says the Spirit will convict the world about?*

**Heart Question:** *How do you tend to respond when the Holy Spirit brings conviction?*

**Hands Question:** *What decision will you place under the Spirit's guidance this week?*

**ASSIGN NEXT WEEKS STORY:** Act 2:1-4