**WEEK 1**

For the next several weeks we will be studying the New Testament book of Acts. A major feature of this study will be a focus on the Holy Spirit and the various ways in which He worked in and through those early disciples to spread the good news about Jesus and establish the church. This week we are doing a general overview of the work of the Holy Spirit in both the Old and New Testaments.

1. Summarize how the Holy Spirit worked through the prophets to provide knowledge of God to His people.

* Balaam in Numbers 24:2
* David in 2 Samuel 23:2
* Amasai in 1 Chronicles 12:18
* Azariah in 2 Chronicles 15:1
* Zechariah in 2 Chronicles 24:20
* Isaiah in Isaiah 59:21
* Ezekiel in Ezekiel 2:2

1. Summarize how the Holy Spirit prepared God’s leaders for service.

* Moses in Numbers 11:17, 25
* Joshua in Numbers 27:18 and Deuteronomy 34:9
* Saul in 1 Samuel 10:1-13 and 16:14
* David in 1 Samuel 16:13 and Psalm 51:11
* Othniel in Judges 3:10
* Gideon in Judges 6:34
* Jephthah in Judges 11:29
* Samson in Judges 13:25; 14:6, 19; 15:14
* The Seventy Elders in Numbers 11:16-30

1. Summarize how the Holy Spirit equipped people for service in the construction of the Tabernacle.

* Exodus 31:2-6
* Exodus 35:30-35
* Exodus 36:1-2

1. How did the Old Testament look forward to the Holy Spirit’s role in the New Testament?

* Isaiah 44:3; 32:15; 43:19-20
* Ezekiel 36:27; 39:29
* Joel 2:28-32 (see Acts 2:16-21)
* Zechariah 12:10

1. Describe how the Holy Spirit works in the life of a disciple before, during, and after conversion.

* John 16:7-8
* 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
* Romans 8:9-11
* Galatians 5:16-25

Discussion Questions

1. In your early experience as a Christian, how much attention was given to the person and work of the Holy Spirit?

1. Describe your history regarding embracing, limiting, or even excluding the Holy Spirit. How has that changed or evolved as you’ve grown in your faith?
2. How does the Holy Spirit’s role in the formation of the Bible change how a disciple views the Bible?
3. How do you think the Spirit reveals truth to us as we read and reflect on the Bible?
4. How does knowing that Holy Spirit indwells the heart of every disciple change how we live?
5. Paul teaches in Galatians 5:16-25 that a spirit-filled disciple bears fruit. This fruit is seen in godly relationships. How have you seen your relationships change to reflect Jesus as you’ve grown in your faith?
6. What is one step you can take to give the Spirit more room to work in your life?