

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Alive: Spirit of Peace

July 30 & 31, 2022

The Holy Spirit is just as close as our own breath; we can't see it but we experience what it does within our bodies to give us life. Jesus helped the disciples prepare for what was to come by reminding them that he was with them through the breath of the Spirit of Peace. This is an important reminder for us as followers of Jesus as well.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: JOHN 14:25-27

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

When Jesus was talking with his disciples prior to his arrest and crucifixion, he gave these words as part of his "farewell discourse." In a time of fear and uncertainty, Jesus came alongside the disciples and introduced them to the third part of the Trinity, which we know as the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, or the Helper. And Jesus didn't just give them this new information about the Holy Spirit by itself. He added words about giving them peace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Jody began her message with a story about a life lesson she learned as a child from her grandma. Share a special memory you have about a grandparent or other older relative. What did you learn from the time you spent together?
- Think about a time you felt afraid. Who came alongside you during this time? How did their presence help to bring you comfort and peace? Did they offer any words or comfort or peace? If so, what were they and how did the words help you?
- In John 14:27, Jesus tells the disciples not to be afraid. Was that even possible given the circumstances they were facing? Is it even possible for us given the circumstances we are facing today?
- Share about a specific situation you are currently facing that is causing you to feel fear.
- What have you found helpful in the past when dealing with fearful situations? What has been UN-helpful?
- Read some Bible verses that help put our fears into perspective: Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 23:4, Psalm 27:1, Psalm 46:1-3, Deuteronomy 31:6, and Luke 12:7. What comfort or peace do these verses bring you?

APPLICATION: This week, spend some time with spiritual practices such as mindful breathing, prayer, or meditating on God's Word. These practices will help us be ready when we are in the midst of fearful circumstances to be more clearly guided by the Spirit. Begin by taking 3 deep breaths, allowing yourself to be aware of the Spirit within you to help you to take peaceful steps to safety or to know that you already are safe.