SPIRIT WALK



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STUDY GUIDE

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Spirit Walk: Study Guide

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Session 1

RETURNING TO A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK

DAY 1

If you have not already done so, start by reading the **Introduction** to this Study Guide.

Be Still Before the Lord (2 minutes)

Worship the Lord

> *For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.*
>
> —Psalm 33:4–5

Turn to Psalm 33 in your Bible. Read the chapter aloud, pausing after each verse to meditate on the greatness of God and fall more in love with Him!

Invite God to Speak to You Today

"Father, I want to worship you in spirit and in truth because you said that is the kind of worship that delights you. As I seek you today, I ask you to reveal anything I have believed about your Holy Spirit that isn't true. Banish every fear. Reveal any cultural bias, misunderstanding or apathy that has taken root in my life. I want to know YOU as you really are! Awaken my heart to the reality of your Spirit at work all around me and give me a heart that longs to know You and please You more and more!"

Read a Portion of *Spirit Walk*

If you have *Spirit Walk (Special Edition)*, read the **Foreword** by Steve Smith and answer the following questions. If not, you may skip to the next section.

1. Has the weight of your sin and shame been lifted and have you joyfully entered into a relationship with the Father like Steve describes? If so, describe what changed in your heart and life when you first received God's forgiveness and love.

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2. Take an honest assessment of your life. There is no shame in being brutally honest. You have been accepted as a child of God because of the righteouness of Christ, not your own goodness. Transformation begins with honest confession and brokenness! Would you say Jesus is an important part of your life or do you truly obey Him unconditionally as your Master?

3. To what extent do you walk in the power of the Holy Spirit day by day?

Reflect & Respond

Please read the **Preface** of *Spirit Walk* and answer the following questions:

1. How does the analogy of the Holy Spirit being like wind enhance your understanding of the Spirit's nature and His work?

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2. If there are two types of believers, those who fail to see or hear the Wind and those who allow the Wind to engulf them, which are you and why do you think that is?

3. What emotions are stirred up when you read about the work of the Holy Spirit and when you consider inviting Him to engulf your life?

Depending on your personal experience or faith tradition, talk of the Holy Spirit might elicit anticipation and hope or, alternatively, inadequacy, anxiety or confusion. For many, the Holy Spirit is the undervalued and largely misunderstood third person of the Trinity, but, according to Jesus, His presence brings peace, wisdom, and power. We definitely don't need to be protecting ourselves from the Spirit of Jesus.

4. Take some time to ask the Lord if there is anything you have believed about the Spirit of God that isn't TRUE. Write a prayer confessing any anxiety or misunderstandings and inviting God to teach you about Himself as we study His word together.

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DAY 2

Be Still Before the Lord (2 minutes)

Worship the Lord

> *"If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.* —John 7:37b–39

Spend some time worshipping Jesus who has now been glorified and sits at the right hand of the throne of God in heaven. Thank Him for sending His Spirit to be with us and to be in us.

Invite God to Speak to You Today

"Father, I want to worship you in spirit and in truth because you said that is the kind of worship that delights you. As I seek you today, I ask you to reveal anything I have believed about your Holy Spirit that isn't true. Banish every fear. Reveal any cultural bias, misunderstanding or apathy that has taken root in my life. I want to know YOU as you really are! Awaken my heart to the reality of your Spirit at work all around me and give me a heart that longs to know you and to please you more and more!"

Read a Portion of *Spirit Walk*

Read the **Introduction**.

Reflect & Respond

1. Do you regularly see the extraordinary power of the Spirit of God that we have just read about at work in your life? Are you content with your current experience of God's power?

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2. The Bible encourages us to live in relationship with God through His Holy Spirit, but "Holy Spirit illiteracy abounds even among long time Christians." Instead of walking in relationship with Him, our tendency is to keep Him at a distance, to resort to our own control or to substitute predictable props and programs for the unpredictable guide. How do you see these tendencies in your own life?

   - Keeping the Holy Spirit at a distance

   - Resorting to your own control

   - Substituting programs or props for reliance upon the Holy Spirit

3. Write the four spiritual disciplines of the Spirit Walk in your own words.

   S _____

   W _____

   A _____

   P _____

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