What does the Holy Spirit do?

1. Debriefing the Weekly Practice from Last Week: The Weekly Practice last week was to schedule a time to serve with your group before the end of the series. Were you able to serve yet? If so, how did that go? What was encouraging? What was a struggle? If you weren't able to serve yet, did you set a date? Any other details to work out before you serve?

If you were able to serve, the debrief is really important.

Serving can have a profound impact on individuals as well as the culture of a group, particularly if serving is a new step.

Help the group process how God used this serve opportunity in their lives. Help them process how serving shifts our perspective. Discuss ways to serve in an ongoing way together.

Weekly Practice

Identify 1-2 of your neighbors that you can seek out this week to start up a conversation.

If you weren't able to serve yet, set a date with the group before the eek 8 meeting. Try your best to get the majority of your group to attend. It will be a valuable experience for everyone.

PLAY VIDEO

- 2. The Alpha video said that the Holy Spirit does the following: transforms our identity, brings us into a close relationship with God, transforms us to become more like Jesus, brings unity to all who are submitted to Christ, and gives unique gifts to all. Which of these areas most speaks to you?
- 3. Read Galatians 5:22-25. This list is called "the fruit of the Spirit." Where do you see evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in your life? Where do you not see it? What barriers do you experience as you seek to "keep in step with the Spirit"?

Sin, in all its forms, is the root of all of these barriers that keep us from staying in step with the Spirit: sin within me, within the world, within others, directly from the enemy, and all of the effects of sin (i.e. disease, pain, loss, danger/fear, confusion, etc.). Some in your group might talk about distraction, busyness, or disordered loves or priorities. All of these cause us to be out of alignment with the Spirit.

- 4. In the video, Aaron shared a story about having an opportunity to witness, and being emboldened to share about Christ. Can you think of a time when you were empowered by the Spirit to share about Christ, when it was clearly God at work in you?
- 5. As Aaron shared, he has never been turned down when he's offered to pray for someone. Have you ever offered to pray for an unbeliever? Tell us the story. What was the result?

Prayer is a means to unlocking the power and love of God. It can be a dynamic witness to unbelievers. Praying for others is also a simple way we show love, care and God's heart for them.

6. Weekly Practice: Click the link to the Rooted Neighboring Card that has been provided. Spend time individually or as a couple and write down the names of as many neighbors as you can in the area surrounding your home or apartment. Then, prayerfully identify 1-2 of these neighbors that you can seek out this week to start up a conversation. Spend time asking God for opportunities. Ask Him how he might have you pursue them. If you're already friends with your neighbors, then maybe it's time to initiate a simple spiritual conversation with them. Ask them about their spiritual or religious background, and maybe use the "spiritual scale" question as well. Spend time as a group in individual prayer as you spiritually prepare for what God has for you this week...

<u>Bless Every Home</u> website as a GREAT tool to help you get to know the names of your neighbors and be reminded to pray for them. Encourage group members to sign up during or after the prayer time.

If you can, print the neighboring card for each group member or just provide paper for them draw their neighborhood on. It's really helpful to actually write down the names of neighbors on the paper. Stick on the fridge as a way to remember.