

Session 7:

The Church & The Spirit



INTRODUCTION

How do we enter into the story? In this final session on Scripture's story, we see how at Pentecost, God gives the Holy Spirit to empower the church. It is not enough to simply know the story; we must also live the story. The Holy Spirit empowers us to participate in the story and God's work of redemption in the world.

EMMAUS ROAD REFLECTION

"As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them." —Luke 24:15

1. What has God been saying to me through this episode (e.g. encouragement, challenge)?
2. What was significant or new? What questions did it raise?

DISCUSSION

1. What did Mary struggle with? What changed for her?
2. When have you felt you went from being a spectator to being a participant—from just knowing about the Biblical story to being "pulled through the frame"?
3. Why was Pentecost significant for the early church? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in the early church and today?
4. What is your experience of the Holy Spirit? How vital is life in the Spirit for living the Christian life?

ACTIVITY

The large candle represents the Holy Spirit, the light and life that sustains each of us in our faith. The Spirit empowers and sends us to carry God's light into the world. The tea candle represents your call to be a light—to bring truth and light to the world around you. As your candle is lit, notice that the flame from the large candle is not diminished, rather the light increases.

Share with one another where you want to experience more of the Holy Spirit in your life. Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill the group and send you into the world as faithful bearers of God's light.