

HOLY GHOST

Stories

Week 3: Comfort or Courage?

After the resurrection, the disciples were completely different people. They were so bold and inspired to spread the message of the Gospel, even in the face of death. As Christians, we have the exact same Spirit of God in our lives, so why don't our lives look more like Peter's or John's? Is it even possible for us to experience the Holy Spirit in the same way?

Discussion Questions

1. What situations make you most afraid? Have you ever seen someone respond courageously to that same situation? What did you observe about them?
2. Have you ever had an experience where following Jesus led you into a situation that made you fearful? What was that like?
3. Read Acts 4:1–20.
 - When you hear that the disciples were “filled with the Holy Spirit,” what do you picture?
 - If you are a follower of Jesus, the same Holy Spirit that lived in the disciples lives in you. What does that mean to you?
 - What do you think keeps us from experiencing the Holy Spirit in a similar way?
4. The Holy Spirit's role as the “Helper” and “Comforter” implies that keeping in step with the Spirit may require some discomfort and dependency. How does that make you feel?
5. Is there an area of your life where you tend to prioritize comfort over courage? What would you do if you were absolutely certain the Holy Spirit lived in you?

Changing Your Mind

Sensing what step the Spirit is leading you to take is often the easy part. Actually taking the step—that's the hard part. Sometimes the step is life-changing; sometimes it means just doing something slightly out of your comfort zone. But on the other side of that step is greater faith, a greater experience with God.

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. - Galatians 5:24–25

