

DISCUSSION GUIDE  
MAY 27 & 28

# Search

What does the Bible say about |



FOLLOWING JESUS • IN COMMUNITY • FOR OTHERS

# Search: Why Do I Forgive?

JOHN 16:5-13 | WEEK 5

## Opening Questions

1. Describe your perceptions of who and what is the Holy Spirit. What did you learn and know about the Holy Spirit as you were growing up?
2. What “spiritual” experience(s) have you had and wondered if the Holy Spirit was involved?
3. What is an unanswered question you would like to ask God or Jesus about the Holy Spirit?

## In the Word

1. Read [John 16:5-15](#). Talk about the context of the entire chapter and what is taking place in John at this time. Why does this matter?
2. As you read these verses, how would you describe in a simple and basic statement the role of the Holy Spirit Jesus describes as “Helper” and “Advocate”?
3. Pastor Carter mentioned three roles for the Holy Spirit (empower, guide, and convict of sin). How are these three roles described in these verses and what do you believe Jesus specifically meant for His disciples and His followers today? What difference should the Holy Spirit make?
4. What else do you see and understand about the Holy Spirit from these verses?
5. Look at the rest of [John 16](#). How does the Spirit’s presence fit in with the rest of what Jesus says? Why is it so important?

## Making It Personal

1. When it comes to “empowering,” what is a specific growth area for you? What does God want you to trust Him in that only He can do?
2. Regarding “guiding,” how does God want you to be open to His guidance? Is there a specific area or decision in which you’ve been needing guidance? How has the Spirit led you or been silent for you?
3. Describe the Holy Spirit’s conviction of sin in your life. In what ways is this both a blessing and a growth area? Be specific and honest.
4. Spend some time in prayer for the needs of your group as they’ve come out through this study—pray diligently and openly for each other. Follow up on prayer requests in the weeks ahead.

## Continued Learning

1. As time allows, talk about some of the other functions of the Holy Spirit. How are these important, personal, and practical? In what ways are they consistent with Jesus’ mission and commission?
  - a. Spirit gives life: [John 6:63](#), [Romans 8:11](#), [2 Cor. 3:6](#), [1 Peter 3:18](#).
  - b. Spirit of truth: [John 14:17](#), [John 15:26](#), [1 John 4:6](#)
  - c. Abides forever: [John 14:16](#)
  - d. Helps us remember Jesus’ words: [John 14:26](#)
  - e. Testifies about Christ: [John 15:26](#)

## **Additional Notes**