

## New Life in Us. Week Three



We have thought about God bringing new Life into being in Creation, we have thought about our new life in Christ. This week we reflect on the Gift of God's Spirit and what that means for our 'New Lives'.

**Opening Worship** Sing Together or if you can't, light a candle instead and watch it quietly for a few moments. Think about the gift of God's power and presence within you. Share some experiences of times when you have felt God's presence very powerfully. Pray together and give thanks for those experiences.

### Discussion

Filled with his Spirit. Read John 14:15-23.

What does this tell us about the gift of God's Spirit? Who is this gift for? How do we get it?

Remember we are all different in personality and in how we relate to God. What helps you to sense God's Spirit within you? (eg reading The Bible) how can you find ways to do this more?

Read Matthew 7:11 God wants to bless you and help you. He wants you to work to bring his Kingdom in by being open to the new life in you. Where do you see God at work in your life?

### Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit,

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-13, Romans 12:4-8, Galatians 5:16 and 22-23 and 1 Peter 4:10-11

For each passage think about

1 What does it say in general terms about God's Holy Spirit.

2 What Gifts or fruits does it describe?

3 which of these gifts do you see in yourself or in other members of the group?

God's Spirit is a rich and wonderful gift that cannot be reduced to one list. What matters is

- a) That we are open to God's Spirit and willing to be guided by him.
- b) That we understand God loves us and wants to give us GOOD gifts not things that make us fearful.
- c) God expects us to practice many different kinds of gifts to help us discover what he has blessed us with.

So Jesus said of his followers (that includes you!) 'My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.' John 14:23

That's good news of new life!

## Summing Up

As you think about what it means to have God make his home with you, work around your group one at a time, Ask each person what they might like prayer for specifically following your study and pray too that God will bless them and fill them and that they will have a stronger sense of Gods guidance and presence in their lives. Even if no one in your group likes praying out loud, pray in silence but perhaps gather round the person you are praying for or lay a hand on their shoulder if they are comfortable with this. Take your time, allow for plenty of prayers!

## Getting ready

Spend half an hour preparing and finalizing your project for next week and praying into it. Remember what ever you plan to do work on groups of two or more don't go out alone. A group of friendly faces will be far less alarming for folk than a 'random' individual offering to pray for them!

Remember if you are going out into the street for prayer walks etc and can't meet up at the end of the evening, it's important to swap mobile phone numbers and at least 'check in' with each other at the end by phone. Hopefully you will have good stories to tell one another!.

## Closing Worship We say together:

'2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore if anyone is in Christ (they) are a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.\*

Our sins are forgiven, let's live our new life in the love of God.'