



Streams

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Focus When Moses led the Hebrews through the desert, water was scarce. God instructed him to speak to a rock, and water gushed from it providing greatly needed sustenance. This rock symbolizes Jesus (1 Corinthians 10:4). And He still wants to provide water to His people in the wilderness. Today, we do not have to live in a dry, desolate place because God, the Holy Spirit, is a river of living water that flows in and out of us. He is our river of life.

Fun Create a sundae bar with ice cream and scrumptious toppings for your members to choose from. Celebrate coming together today!

Review Key Scriptures: Isaiah 35:6–7, 41:18, 58:11; Jeremiah 31:12

1. Jesus brought the Holy Spirit.

John 7:37–39; Zechariah 14:16–17

On the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, Israel prayed for rain and the coming of the Messiah. When Jesus spoke the words, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me.” He is saying, “I am the Messiah.” Because of Jesus, we can have a powerful river flowing inside and out of us called the Holy Spirit. We can live in a river of living water in a dry world.

2. The Holy Spirit is not weird.

John 16:12–13

The Holy Spirit is not an “it.” He is a person; the third member of the Trinity. He knows everything about everything! We can ask Him to guide us, reveal truth to us, speak to us, and tell us things to come. *Parakletos* is the Greek word for helper, intercessor, consoler, advocate, or comforter. *Parabole* means to *walk or*

come alongside. The Holy Spirit is our comforter and our helper who wants to walk alongside us and who we can have a personal relationship with.

3. Let the river flow.

James 3:7–8; 1 Corinthians 14:14–15

Scripture tells us that mankind cannot control the tongue. However, the Holy Spirit can. He gives the gift of tongues for speaking publicly and the grace of tongues as a private prayer language. Every Christian has the ability to speak in a prayer language, but we have a choice whether to speak. As we become more sensitive to the Spirit, we can see things and say things that we did not before. In the flow of the river, the Holy Spirit builds us up.

Group Dynamics Idea A river carries away debris and detritus but is also a means to sustain life by delivering things we need. Discuss various ways the flow of a natural river can be compared to the flow of the Holy Spirit.

Discuss

1. Read Isaiah 35:6–7 and 41:18. How have these verses become a reality in the land of Israel today?
2. What does Zechariah 14:16–17 prophesy? How does Jesus fulfill this prophecy (John 7:37)?
3. According to John 7:38–39, what happens when we believe in Jesus? What does *living water* typically symbolize?
4. Read John 16:13. What is the role of the Holy Spirit? How does this verse settle all debate on whether the Holy Spirit speaks today?
5. The Greek word describing the Holy Spirit is *parakletos*, meaning helper, intercessor, consoler, advocate, or comforter. As our relationship with Him deepens, how might He minister to us in these personal ways?
6. The Apostle Paul believed it was important to have a prayer language (1 Corinthians 13:14–15). How does a prayer language help us pray more effectively?

7. Take a quiet moment to come before God. If you have never spoken in your private prayer language, ask Him for it now. Remember, you will always be in control of when you speak it.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- The Holy Spirit is a person.
- He is the third member of the Trinity.
- The Holy Spirit is my comforter.
- He is an overflowing river.

Prayer Jesus, I want Your Holy Spirit to flow freely inside and outside of me. Guide me into all truth, speak to me, and open my ears to what You have to say. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Members of your group may want to go deeper in their encounter with God. This June at the Southlake Campus, there is a four-week Equip class series based on Pastor Robert's book *The God I Never Knew* that they may want to attend. This class is interactive and lays the Biblical foundations of who the Holy Spirit is and what the baptism in the Holy Spirit looks like. For more information, visit equip.gatewaypeople.com.