



14 ...You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. 15 If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. 16 Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16 (MSG)

- We have a personal **responsibility** to be the light.

17 If you see some brother or sister in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear. 1 John 3:17 (MSG)

- People **experience** God in how you **care** for them.
- The light that we possess is the **Spirit** that possesses us.

16 Don't you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16 (GWT)

25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:25 (NLT)

What it means to follow the Spirit's leading:

- We're **listening** to what He's saying.

6 Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Proverbs 3:6 (MSG)

- We do **what** He tells us to do, **when** He tells us to do it.

8 I will instruct you (says the Lord) and guide you along the best pathway for your life; I will advise you and watch your progress. 9 Don't be like a senseless horse or mule that has to have a bit in its mouth to keep it in line! Psalm 32:8-9 (TLB)

27 My sheep recognize my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27 (TLB)

- We're **investing** our lives into people.

The purpose of the Holy Spirit in us:

- We were designed to do life **from** God's Spirit.

5 Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. 6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. John 3:5-6 (NLT)

63 The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. John 6:63 (NLT)

- We are designed to do life **with** God's Spirit.

25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:25 (NLT)

- The Holy Spirit is the **companion** we need .

16 I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. John 14:16 (MSG)

8 The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Psalm 32:8 (NLT)

14 The true children of God are those who let God's Spirit lead them. Romans 8:14 (NCV)

Allowing the Spirit to lead us:

- Be responsive to the **Spirit** within you.

18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 5:18 (NLT)

5 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. Romans 8:5 (NLT)

- Live with an awareness of the **needs** surrounding you.

Acts 8:29-31 (NLT)

- **Pray** for the **people** around you.

18 Pray in the Spirit at all times with all kinds of prayers, asking for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready and never give up. Always pray for all God's people. Ephesians 6:18 (NCV)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Why?
- When you read Matthew 5:14-16, what do you believe God is asking of us?
- Read Galatians 5:25 - What does it mean to you to Follow the Spirit's leading? Do you do this? What prevents us from following the Spirit's leading?
- Talk about what it means to listen to what the Spirit is saying to us?
- What is the difference between doing life "from" God's Spirit and doing life "with" God's Spirit?
- When we say that the Holy Spirit is a companion we need, what are we saying? Is He just a friend? What does His presence with us provide for us?
- When it comes to serving the people in our life, why is it necessary for us to be led by the Spirit?
- How do we live in a way that allows us to be responsive to the Spirit within us? What does that mean to you?
- How can we live with an awareness of the needs surrounding us? Why is this important in what the Spirit is doing?
- Why is praying for people important to what the Spirit is doing?
- Commit to praying for people around you. That God's Spirit will touch them and use you.

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