



# SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit [woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials](http://woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials) for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact [Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org](mailto:jperrin@woodlakeumc.org).

## Creed: What Christians Believe and Why It Matters—The Holy Spirit. WEEK # 3

01.

### INTRODUCTION:

**This week we continue our series on the Apostles Creed as we learn about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the promised gift that Jesus said would be given to each and every one of us. The Spirit lives in us revealing God's presence at work upon us and within us.**

02.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Pastor Gordon introduced the Holy Spirit by asking the question – What Do I Know About the Holy Spirit? He spoke about his college friend Tom and their discussions regarding the presence of The Holy Spirit. Tom's church emphasized the Holy Spirit during worship compared to Pastor Gordon's more limited role, typically limited to The Apostle's Creed. Personally, where are you on "The Holy Spirit" scale – very active to less active? What is your belief on the appropriate balance?
- He clarified that The Holy Spirit is not an "it." Why is it important to experience The Holy Spirit as a viable person within the Trinity?
- Also, Pastor Gordon spoke about The Holy Spirit viewed as effeminate, especially in the early church. Have you previously thought of The Spirit as more female oriented versus male? Are there benefits to experiencing The Holy Spirit from the female perspective?
- Pastor Gordon used examples from the Old Testament (King Saul, King David, and Gideon) – particular people called by The Spirit for a particular time. What are other Biblical or non-Biblical examples of The Spirit calling women and men for a particular situation? Does this happen today?
- Pastor Gordon's second question – How does the Holy Spirit help us? Pastor Gordon identified four specific examples:
  - How does The Spirit comfort you?
  - How does The Spirit lead and guide you?



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- How does The Spirit convict you? Why can this be painful?
  - How does The Spirit strengthen through his Power?
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- Finally, have you experienced the direct intervention of The Holy Spirit comforting, leading, convicting or strengthening you?



## NEXT STEPS

1. Ask for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and be prepared to activate the Spirit.
2. Listen for The Holy Spirit, especially during your prayer time.
3. Let the Spirit be your Helper.