

# 4 Helps: Truth

Sometimes it is hard to know what is true spiritually, but the Holy Spirit can enlighten us



# B

## Group Discussion Flow

### connect with needs

- ▶ Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their **action to take** and **person to tell** went last week.
- ▶ Pray for wisdom from God for the session.
- ▶ Start by stating: *"Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false."*  
Then, surface experiences:  
*"Let me tell you how I have experienced this."*  
*"Tell us how you have experienced this."*
- ▶ Transition to the Bible by saying, *"The Holy Spirit can give us wisdom in discerning what is true in spiritual matters."*

### hear what God says

- ▶ Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic.  
Choices:  
**1 Corinthians 2:10–12**  
**John 16:13–15**  
**Acts 8:26–36 (story)**  
Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.  
Commentary:  
**1 Corinthians 2:10–12** — Only the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ know the thoughts of the Father. Through the Spirit, we can have more than just human wisdom. We can know spiritual truths that come from God.  
**John 16:13–15** — Jesus is explaining the work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit guides us into all truth and helps make the Father known to us.

**Acts 8:26–36** — Philip (one of Jesus' disciples) is able to explain the meaning of a passage in the Old Testament to a man he meets on the road from Jerusalem to Gaza.

- ▶ Discuss each passage using the following questions, or the alternate questions below:  
*What do you think this passage teaches us?*  
*What can we learn about God or our response to God?*  
*How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false"?*

### apply that to life

- ▶ State the main lesson: *"Sometimes it is hard to know what is true spiritually, but the Holy Spirit can enlighten us."* Have them write the **lesson learned** on their Mini-Journal card.
- ▶ Discuss:  
*What are some confusing messages we receive today concerning spiritual truth?* (e.g. how movies portray Christianity)  
*What is one action you can take this week to receive more wisdom from the Holy Spirit?*
- ▶ It may be appropriate to walk through the [Satisfied?](#) (Spirit-filled Life) booklet at this point.
- ▶ Have them write down their specific **action to take**. Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

### tell someone they know

- ▶ Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- ▶ Have them write the name after **person to tell**. Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- ▶ Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### pray

- Pray for wisdom.
- Pray for group members.

##### connect

- Think of a good personal example to share.
- Decide when and how to transition from **connect** to **hear**.

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### hear

Alternate questions to ask:

- 1 Corinthians 2:10–12**

*What can we learn about the extent of the Spirit's knowledge from this passage?*

- John 16:13–15**

Explain that Jesus was preparing His disciples for the fact that He would soon be gone from them physically. He encouraged them by explaining that He would send help for them in the form of

the Holy Spirit.

- In this passage, what kind of help is promised through the Holy Spirit?*
  - What are some very practical ways that same Spirit can help us as believers in today's circumstances?*
- Acts 8:26–36**
    - While the circumstances were quite unique, what message was Philip able to share? Why was it necessary for Philip to explain things to this man? Where did Philip's ability come from?*
    - What might you have shared with the man from Ethiopia?*

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### apply

- Decide when and how to transition from **hear** to **apply**.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. Have an example in mind.
- Print [Truth Mini Journal](#).

#### notes and preparation checklist

##### tell

- Encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Look for group members who **tell** easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.