

The Holy Spirit at Work: Small Group Guide

Week 4: Authoritative Commissioning

May 3, 2026

Icebreaker Question: Share about a time when you felt the wind impact something you were doing (flying a kite, holding an umbrella, etc.). How did you respond to it?

Key Sermon Points Review

- The Holy Spirit is like the wind—invisible but undeniably present and impactful
 - The Spirit's primary work is to make us more like Christ
 - The Spirit commissions us for specific purposes in our daily lives
 - Living in alignment with the Spirit may take us beyond our comfort zones
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Discussion Questions

Understanding the Spirit's Work

1. **The pastor asked: "When is the last time you expected the Spirit to do something in your life?"** How would you answer that question? Why do you think we often have low expectations for the Spirit's daily activity?
2. Review the various works of the Spirit mentioned in the sermon (comfort, conviction, guidance, gifting, growing fruit). Which of these have you experienced most clearly? Which seems most foreign to your experience?

Resistance & Surrender

3. The sermon suggested we resist the Spirit's work because "we would rather focus on being comfortable, feeling good, and being safe." Do you agree with this assessment? What specific areas of your life feel most "off-limits" to the Spirit's influence?
4. **Reflect on this statement: "The safest place in all the world is in the will of God."** How does this definition of "safety" challenge or conflict with our cultural understanding of safety and security?

Personal Application

5. The pastor shared Rebecca Mangold's story about being prompted to attend a service where she was immediately used by God. Have you ever experienced a prompting from the Spirit that led to something unexpected? What happened? If you resisted a prompting, what held you back?

6. **Peter's story (Acts 10) shows the Spirit directing him beyond his comfort zone to share the gospel with Italians.** Who are the "Italians" in your life—the people or places you've unconsciously (or consciously) decided are outside your mission field?

Worship & Commissioning

7. The sermon stated that "worship can be a dangerous thing" because it's a platform where the Spirit sends us. How does this change your perspective on Sunday morning worship? What would it look like to come to worship more expectantly?
8. **Acts 4:29-31 shows the early church praying for boldness in the face of threats.** What would it look like for our group/church to pray similar prayers today? What "threats" (cultural pressure, fear of rejection, etc.) keep us from bold witness?

Key Takeaways

Have group members share which of these resonated most with them:

- **The Spirit sets us apart and sends us** for specific purposes
- **Our worship/praise is a platform** for the Spirit's commissioning
- **The Spirit directs us to missions beyond our comfort zone**
- **The Spirit compels us to testify** about Jesus
- **The Spirit prepares us to face bad outcomes with great boldness**

Closing Prayer

Pray for each other using Acts 4:29 as a model:

- Ask God to enable bold witness
- Ask for awareness of the Spirit's movement
- Ask for courage to move beyond comfort zones

Group Prayer: Close by praying together that your church would be marked by Spirit-awareness and Spirit-obedience in the coming weeks.