

Session 1: The Person of the Spirit

- Greet everyone as they arrive and give each person a copy of the student handout. After a few minutes of fellowship, begin with prayer.

Introduction

SAY Welcome to this study on *Living in the Spirit*. Together we'll discover who the Holy Spirit is and how He ministers in and through our lives. Most likely every one of us has something to learn about the Holy Spirit because we come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

? **How might people in different Christian churches describe the Holy Spirit?** (*Allow responses. Write responses on the board if available.*)

SAY As we study what the Bible has to say about the Holy Spirit, think about who the Holy Spirit is to you.

Video Segment

SAY First, let's watch as George O. Wood, author of *Living in the Spirit*, shares about the Holy Spirit. Dr. Wood is the leader of the U.S. Assemblies of God. He is the son of missionary parents to China and Tibet.

- Additional biographical information is included on the back cover of *Living in the Spirit*.

DVD Play DVD track 1.

SAY It helps to know that even an expert on the Holy Spirit like Dr. Wood had misconceptions about the Holy Spirit.

? **How did his descriptions match what we listed?** (*Allow responses as group members compare the group list to the video teaching.*)
Some of Dr. Wood's misconceptions about the Holy Spirit are:

He is a scary ghost.

He had something against George.

He didn't really change people ("they were downright nasty people").

He is an impersonal force.

SAY Earlier I asked you to think about who the Holy Spirit is to you.

? **How could you relate to some of the experiences that Dr. Wood shared?** (*Group response*) **What is one thing that you have already discovered about the Holy Spirit?** (*Allow responses.*)

GETTING READY

- ☐ Review Session 1 and PowerPoint® presentation.
- ☐ Read chapter 1 in *Living in the Spirit* by George O. Wood and Session 1.
- ☐ Review video segment 1 on the DVD.
- ☐ Make copies of the student handout and the Session 1 Talk About It (one each per student).

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ **Living in the Spirit: Teaching DVD**
- ☐ DVD player and projector or television
- ☐ Board and chalk/marker or overhead projector, blank transparencies, and marker
- ☐ Copy of the student handout for each student
- ☐ Copy of Session 1 Talk About It for each student

NOTE

No time to watch the video? Dr. Wood shares about his own misconceptions as a teenager of who the Holy Spirit is. Then he teaches briefly about the Holy Spirit as a Person and shares personal stories to illustrate his points.