

▶ Living in the Spirit

Churchwide Series Coordinator Guide



- Teaching Series
- Discussion Series
- Kids' Sessions



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Talk About It pages

Get families in your church talking about what they've learned on the way home or at the dinner table.

Because each group intentionally approaches session topics in a unique way, *Talk About It* pages suggest things for each person to share about what they've learned.

Then new questions will encourage more discussion and discovery together.

The Teaching and Discussion CD-ROMs include these *Talk About It* pages. Hand them out with the church bulletin or give them to *Living in the Spirit* participants.



Welcome to Living in the Spirit!



I'm excited to share these resources with your church. I trust that students of all ages will grow in their relationship with the Holy Spirit as a result.

When I wrote *Living in the Spirit*, I focused on helping pastors better understand how the gifts can be used effectively in churches today.

Some of those pastors had an even greater vision. They realized that all people in Pentecostal churches would benefit from this core teaching. So a team adapted the original content from *Living in the Spirit* to make it age appropriate for adults, youth, and children.

I've already received positive response. Check out how others are already benefitting from *Living in the Spirit* on the back of this Coordinator Guide.

May God richly bless your ministry!

George O. Wood
General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God
Author, *Living in the Spirit*

When is the best time to use the *Living in the Spirit* resources?

Because these resources are designed for all ages, choose the best time so everyone can participate. Here are some ideas—

▶ For Sunday School & churchwide series—

Match the *Living in the Spirit* Kit resources with these participants—

- **Adults:** Use the Teaching Series for a thorough understanding of each topic.
- **Youth and young adults:** Use the Discussion Series to answer questions they may have about the Holy Spirit (but are afraid to ask).
- **Elementary kids:** Use the Kids' Sessions in either Sunday School or children's church.

Then send home the *Talk About It* pages to encourage families and friends to discuss what they've learned together.



▶ For Midweek Services—

Consider using the Teaching Series with the adults and youth while elementary kids enjoy the Kids' Sessions. Then send home the Discussion sessions for families with older kids to enjoy together.

▶ For Small Groups—

Choose either the Teaching or Discussion Series for adults and youth. Better yet, use both, alternating between them to allow for a mix of learning and discussion on each topic. Let kids enjoy the Kids' Sessions during children's church if you don't have small groups just for them.

Then send home the *Talk About It* pages to encourage families and friends to discuss what they've learned together.



What's included in the *Living in the Spirit* Kit?

Let everyone in your church from ages 6 to 96 discover more about the Holy Spirit together. Here's how—



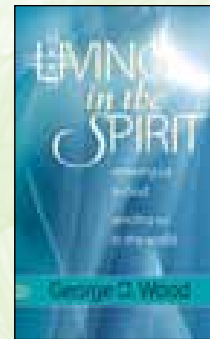
Kids' Sessions DVD & CD-ROM

Introduces kids to the same important truths their parents are discovering about the Holy Spirit through children's church-style sessions. BONUS DVD shares two *Faith Case*™ sessions on the Holy Spirit. If you haven't already tried this powerful DVD-driven resource to help kids learn 16 foundational truths, these sessions add some WOW to your *Living in the Spirit* sessions. See pages 12 and 13 for more information.



Teaching DVD & CD-ROM

Pairs teaching videos from author Dr. George O. Wood along with printable sessions and handouts for all eight chapters of the *Living in the Spirit* book. See pages 8 and 9 for more information.



Living in the Spirit book

While this book is not required, these sessions will make participants hungry for a deeper understanding of the Holy Spirit. Consider giving Teaching group participants the *Living in the Spirit* books right away, but we found that Discussion group participants enjoyed the book more after they'd completed a few sessions.



Discussion DVD & CD-ROM

Explores Dr. Wood's personal testimonies from *Living in the Spirit* through "George's Story." Add the conversational video clips from the DVD to encourage even more discussion in your group. See pages 10 and 11 for more information.



Special feature!

Don't miss the *Talk About It* pages. See page 2 for more info.



Discussion DVD & CD-ROM

To the Discussion Leader—

Thank you for choosing to lead a *Living in the Spirit* discussion group. Your group will enjoy eight sessions together.

Overview:

Through excerpts from *Living in the Spirit* called “George’s Story,” group participants will discuss how George’s views of the Holy Spirit are similar to theirs. Then they’ll explore selected Bible passages for a deeper understanding of the topics.

Session titles:

1. Who is the Holy Spirit to me?
2. What is the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
3. Why should I be baptized in the Holy Spirit?
4. What is the purpose of speaking in tongues?
5. How does the fruit of the Spirit affect me?
6. How do the gifts of the Spirit apply today?
7. How should the gifts of the Spirit be used in church?
8. How do I live in the Spirit daily?



YOUR ROLE: Discussion Leader

PREP TIME:
up to 20 min.



What you’ll need:

- *Living in the Spirit* Discussion DVD & CD-ROM
- DVD player and TV or projector if using the video portion of each session
- *Living in the Spirit* book (optional)

What you need to know:

The CD-ROM includes easy-to-use discussion guides for all eight sessions. After your group discusses “George’s Story,” they’ll explore what God’s Word says about the topics. Sessions end with an optional prayer time to allow participants to respond.

Remember to print and reproduce the handout from the CD-ROM, so group members can follow along and respond.

The DVD offers question-based conversations on the session topic. It’s optional, but recommended so your group can watch young adults grapple with the same issues as George did.

Using *Living in the Spirit* as a churchwide series?

Remember—send home the *Talk About It* pages, so families and friends can discuss what they’ve learned together (included on CD-ROM).

Reproduce pages 10 and 11 for group leaders who are using the *Living in the Spirit* Discussion DVD & CD-ROM.



Kids' Sessions DVD & CD-ROM

To the Kids' Leader—

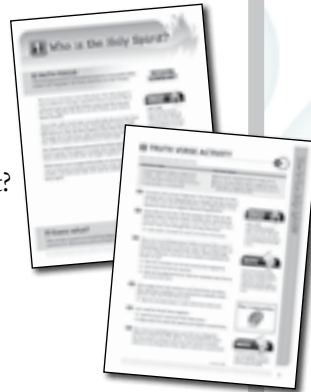
Thank you for choosing to lead kids as they grow in their understanding of the Holy Spirit. You'll enjoy eight sessions together.

Overview:

Every session uses object lessons, Bible stories, games, and other activities to help kids discover who the Holy Spirit is and why being baptized in the Holy Spirit is important for every believer. Kids will learn four Bible verses, each reinforced in two sessions to help kids remember them.

Session titles:

1. Who is the Holy Spirit?
2. What is the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
3. Why should I be baptized in the Holy Spirit?
4. What about speaking in tongues?
5. What is the fruit of the Spirit?
6. What are the gifts of the Spirit?
7. What about love and the gifts of the Spirit?
8. What does living in the Spirit look like?



▶ **YOUR ROLE:**
Leader

▶ **PREP TIME:**
up to 1 hour



What you'll need:

- *Living in the Spirit* Kids' Sessions DVD & CD-ROM
- DVD player and TV or projector (optional, only if using the bonus sessions from the DVD)
- Easy-to-gather items from home for session activities

What you need to know:

The CD-ROM includes all the session activities and printables. To prepare for each session, read through the activities and gather the extra items needed. If you have coleaders, the sessions can be divided by activity to simplify prep time for everyone involved.

BONUS: The DVD offers two sessions from *Faith Case™: Investigating the Truth*. If your church hasn't used this resource, consider replacing sessions 1 and 2 with these DVD sessions. The leader guide for these resources is included on the CD-ROM. (To find out more about *Faith Case*, visit www.faithcase.com.)



Using *Living in the Spirit* as a churchwide series?

Please note: The *Talk About It* pages are designed for families who are participating in *Living in the Spirit* so they can discuss what they've learned together.

Reproduce pages 12 and 13 for leaders who are using the *Living in the Spirit* Kids' Sessions DVD & CD-ROM.

Want to get additional *Living in the Spirit* resources?

You may want to get extra copies of *Living in the Spirit* for leaders and participants. Here's how—

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Here's what others are saying about *Living in the Spirit...*

I wouldn't have picked up the *Living in the Spirit* book to read. But after discussing George's story, I connected with him and wanted to find out more about the Holy Spirit.

~Dave, discussion group participant

After doing the Discussion study as a family, I realized how rarely I talked about the Holy Spirit with my kids. Then my teenage son asked if we could keep studying the Bible together! Thanks for making it easy for my family to share and learn together.

~Julie, parent

I was surprised how easy it was to get my youth Sunday School class to open up. They appreciated being able to discuss their questions about the Holy Spirit and are looking forward to continuing the study.

~Danny, Sunday School teacher

One of the kids in my children's church got pretty excited when he recognized the language as an adult spoke in tongues.

~Sandy, children's church leader

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