

**Adult Group Study Guide for March 29, 2020**  
**Series: “I Believe” – “I believe in the Holy Spirit...”**

Goal: To raise our awareness of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Key Verse: *But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*  
- John 14:26

1. Talk about the effect of social distancing on your relationships. How has the spread of COVID-19 changed the way you relate to other people? How has the presence of the Holy Spirit made a difference in the way that you are facing this crisis?
  
2. Read John 14:25-27. In John 14 Jesus is teaching his disciples the hard truth that he is going away. The disciples reacted with doubt and fear. In response Jesus told them that they would not be alone, but he would send the Holy Spirit to take his place, using the Greek word, Parakleet, which can be translated as Comforter, Advocate, or Helper. In what ways does the Holy Spirit serve as our Comforter or Helper? (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-11; Romans 8:16)
  
3. Read Philippians 4:6-7. How would you describe the ways that the Holy Spirit brings comfort or encouragement in your life?
  
4. Acts 2 tells the story of the birth of the church following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The first gathering of believers is described in Acts 2:42-47. What did those early Christians do to encourage each other?
  
5. In the Creed we confess that we believe in “the holy catholic (or universal) church.” What do all Christians have in common? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in keeping the church alive today? (1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Ephesians 2:19-22) What can we do to maintain the unity of the church? (1 Corinthians 1:10)
  
6. In the Creed, we confess that we believe in “the communion of saints.” How do you feel about being called a “saint”? (Psalm 30:4; Romans 1:7) What does it mean to be part of a communion or community? (Romans 12:3-8) What could you do this week to make a difference in someone’s life who is isolated from others?