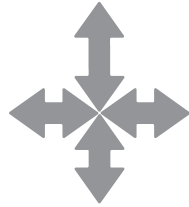




## GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of June 30th

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.



**UP:** growing in relationship with God

**IN:** growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

**OUT:** growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission

### **Get Started:**

Did you ever experience a season where you "held things in common" with other people? (perhaps shared a house or dorm in college, shared a car with siblings, etc.) What was good about this season? What was challenging?



**UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word**

Read aloud the passages for the week: Acts 2:36-47. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful.

1. Reread verse 36. What do the terms Lord and Messiah mean? Do they mean something different now than they did then?
2. Reread verse 37. What stands out to you about the people's response to Peter?
3. Reread verse 38. Peter recommends the people first repent, then be baptized, and finally receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Does this mirror your experience? What about these instructions are prescriptive for all people (and us today)?
4. Reread verse 42-47. How does this align with your experience of "church"? How does this align with the experience of your life group?
5. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit from this passage?



**Out: : Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)**

Reread verses 41 and 47. The early church saw large numbers of people coming to faith in Christ. This was certainly the work of the Holy Spirit, but they were participants in this work! Take time to pray for the Holy Spirit to add to our number today. Consider how the Lord may be inviting you to join in this work.



**IN: Connect with Each Other**

As we wrap up this “Holy Spirit” series, once again close with this ancient prayer of the church:

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.  
And kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.  
And you will renew the face of the earth.  
Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit  
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.  
In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right  
and always rejoice in your consolation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>“Prayer to the Holy Spirit,” Loyola Press, 2019, <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/prayer/traditional-catholic-prayers/prayers-every-catholic-should-know/prayer-to-the-holy-spirit?p=1>.