



## The Transforming Power of the Holy Spirit

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1. We are going to talk about hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit in our group today. Can you think of a time in your own life when you didn't get something – maybe you couldn't sing on tune, or keep a beat, or emotionally read the room, or get it about a joke, etc.? What was it like when you finally realized that you didn't understand what was going on and how did you feel about that? We do not want anyone to feel like that about the Holy Spirit, but we do want to learn how to hear His voice.
2. Read Romans 8:16-17 twice and talk about what it teaches. Here are four related questions that come out as reflections on these texts.
  - a. What does Romans 8:16-17 teach us and how do we practice it today?
  - b. The Greek text literally states that the Spirit *bears witness* (συμμαρτυρεῖ) to the (τῷ) spirit (πνεύματι) of us (ἡμῶν). Did you know or when did you first know that we experience the voice of the Spirit not as an external voice, but as something within our own human spirit? How does this teaching help you or make it difficult for you? Explain.
  - c. Read the following statement by Dallas Willard and share your personal reflections on what he says.
    - i. *All of the words that we are going to receive from God, no matter what may accompany them externally or internally, will ultimately pass through the form of our own thoughts and perceptions. We must learn to find in them the voice of the God in whom we live and move and have our being.* - Dallas Willard, *Hearing God*
  - d. Does this mean that we need other corroborating sources (scripture, wisdom, advice) to ensure that the voice we hear is truly the voice of God? Explain.
3. Read Romans 8:5 twice. What does it teach and how can we personally apply it to our lives today? How can we encourage each other to set our minds on what the Spirit desires?
4. Read Romans 8:9 twice. What does it teach and how do you personally feel about this teaching? How widely known is this teaching among Christians? Read Acts 2:38 and note the promise given in that text about the Holy Spirit. Is it possible that people have the gift of the indwelling Spirit, when they were baptized, but they have never learned how to open the gift and enjoy it? Explain your thoughts on this topic.
5. Make sure that everyone in your group knows about the eBook on the Holy Spirit that is posted on the Harpeth Hub, how they can get it, and how it is a resource for everyone who has additional questions.
6. After the teaching and this discussion, what is one way that you would like to draw closer to the Holy Spirit this week and why?
7. How can we help and pray for each other this week?

### Reminder:

- Join us for our bi-annual Family Discipleship Summit! Each Summit we cover different topics relating to raising our children towards Jesus from birth through adulthood! Childcare is available (please pre-register). This is a free event, and we welcome you to invite others in the community. Visit the link for more details!
  - <https://harpethcc.com/events/family-discipleship-summit/2025-02-23>
- Sign up for the next Digging Deep class that is kicking off this coming Friday on February 7<sup>th</sup>. This class is going deep into the book of Acts. Sign up at the link below!
  - <https://harpethcc.com/events/digging-deep-winter-study/2025-02-07>



- Here is the QR code to scan to download the eBook or visit the Harpeth Hub at [harpethcc.com/harpeth-hub](https://harpethcc.com/harpeth-hub).