

"God Never Said That"

"It Doesn't Matter What You Believe"

warm-up

Group Ice Breaker:

Share briefly about what it means to you to "breathe life." Think about these contexts:

Family relationships

Friendships

Work relationships

Work projects

Family activities

Community engagement

word & application

Read the following scriptures:

Genesis 2:7 (NLT)

*Then the lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. **He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils**, and the man became a living person.*

John 20:19-22 (NLT)

*...the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "**Receive the Holy Spirit.**"*

Acts 1:5 (NLT)

[Jesus speaking] *"John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be **baptized with the Holy Spirit.**"*

Acts 17:24-25 (NLT)

[Paul speaking at Mars Hill] *He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, and human hands can't serve his needs—for he has no needs. **He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need.***

Discussion & Application

In the above scriptures, in the Hebrew language and Greek, Old Testament and New, the words "breath" and "spirit" can be interchangeable with dual meanings. (Hebrew: *něshamah* // Greek: *pneuma* & *pnoē*)

- What do these scriptures say about God's character and His will toward us?
- Why does it matter that we believe in this characteristic of God?
- How does our personal belief in God's view of us translate to our view of the world around us?
- What habits can we initiate in our daily lives to reflect our acceptance and belief of God's desire to "breathe life" into people?

prayer

Pray over group requests. Also, pray for the Holy Spirit to continually reveal to us a knowledge of the one and only true God who desires a relationship with us, desires to create new life within us, is always near and simply wants to show His love for us. Pray for the Holy Spirit to overflow through us like a "breath of fresh air" into our relationships and our world.