

“The Kingdom”

Week 6 - Ready or Not

warm-up

Group Ice Breaker: THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Hand a few group members some unlit candles. Light each candle individually and turn the lights off. Then ask the them to combine their flames. Discuss the differences.

word & application

Who is the Holy Spirit? What is His role? Why is it so important for believers to accept this?

The Holy Spirit is the Oil

Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom... The five who were foolish didn’t take enough olive oil for their lamps, but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, they were roused by the shout, ‘Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him! All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. Then the five foolish ones asked the others, ‘Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’”

2 Kings 4:1-6

*“One day the widow of a member of the group of prophets came to Elisha and cried out, “My husband who served you is dead, and you know how he feared the Lord. But now a creditor has come, threatening to take my two sons as slaves. “What can I do to help you?” Elisha asked. “Tell me, what do you have in the house?” “Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil,” she replied. And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled.” So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. 6Soon every container was full to the brim! Bring me another jar,” she said to one of her sons. **“There aren’t any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing.***

Group Discussion: Explore these questions in conversation as a group.

In the Bible, “oil” often represents the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. In these passages, what could be interpreted about the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives? What are the benefits and strengths that the Holy Spirit brings into our lives? What would our Christian lives be like without Him? What happens when we are willing vessels of His power?

Getting Personal: Share how these ideas affect you personally

- What is the Holy Spirit revealing to me through the scriptures and discussion?
- Are my personal beliefs being challenged by this? Where could I grow as a result of this?
- What am I going to do about it?

prayer

Ask members to shape their prayer requests to align with the principles above. Discuss how we might pray if we truly believe God’s Holy Spirit is present and working in our lives. In your prayers, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal places where we can trust Him more.