

PLUGGING INTO THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



THEOLOGICAL QUESTION

How do I get plugged into the power of the Holy Spirit?

BIG IDEA

Scripture commands us to live a Christian life through the power and help of the Holy Spirit, and so all believers must be filled with and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE USED

John 14:16-18

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you.

Galatians 5:22-25

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

Ephesians 5:18

Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Leader's Note: Please be aware that the focus of this lesson is specifically on engaging in a relationship with the Holy Spirit and going deeper with Him. For more on nature of the Holy Spirit and His roles as our Prayer Partner, Advocate, Counselor and Teacher, please refer to the Youth Group 2 Go lesson "[The Holy Spirit's P.A.C.T.](#)"

OPENER

For the opener "Power Players" game you will need:

- Several objects that seem simple or basic on one level, but that someone might argue possess the power to be very influential—maybe even life

changing. The following are a few ideas: A Bible, a pen, a light bulb, a few specifically chosen popular fiction characters (i.e., Katniss Everdeen, Superman, Tris Prior, Iron Man), a watch, a water bottle, a roll of duct tape, a match, a cell phone, a map of the world, a dollar bill, a magnifying glass, a toy car, a pair of eyeglasses. Please feel free to be creative. Students will find a way to make the game their own! We recommend one object for each student, plus three or four more extras to provide choices.

- A box these items can fit in.
- Scratch paper and writing utensils for the students (optional).

EXPLAIN

I would like you to take a look at these items in this box. (Leaders, at this point no one should touch or select their item yet, just observe them. If your group is large, you may want to hold them up and name them and then set them out on a table. If your group is smaller, you can gather them around the box to take a look at its contents). **In just a moment I am going to ask you to select something out of here that you could argue is incredibly powerful. Maybe we take that power for granted and we do not think about its influence daily, or we feel like this power is somewhat “hidden.” You need to make a case for how important the item—or in some cases, what it represents—is. I want you to convince us, and to really make a strong case for the incredible impact that the item could have! What is it about the potential power of your item to impact lives that makes it a game changer?**

Provide students with no more than one minute to select an item. You may want to have your students “count off” to determine the order for the selection process. Then give them another moment to collect their thoughts, and allow as many students as you can to share their brief thoughts on what was requested.

ASK

- **In most of the “cases” we just heard regarding the power of these various objects, was the potential power of the object hidden or obvious?**
- **In our examples, would you say that these objects’ power will just burst forth from them as they lay there in the box, or does their power only become more fully evident when “action” is inserted into the equation?**
- **Let’s play a little word association now. When I say the word “power,” what’s the first thing that pops into your head? Just shout out your response to the whole group.** (Encourage responses like: force, strength, authority, command, control, military, political, energy, fuel, might, ability.)
- **Okay, good. Now shift your mindset some. Think about the Christian life—we’re at youth group after all. When I say the word “power” in the context of the Christian life, what kinds of things pop into your head?**