

CONNECT GROUP NOTES

DEEPER

**INSTEAD BE FILLED
WITH THE SPIRIT**

WEEK 7



FOR THE FACILITATOR

Encourage the group to take turns reading and answering questions. It is best to ask the questions as they appear instead of waiting till the end

TOPIC : Deeper week 7

Sermon audio:

www.outlookchurch.co.za/sermons/391

TIME TO PONDER:

As we start our final week of going deeper, it is important to remember that going deeper is

not a theoretical exercise but a practical one.
It requires action.

Let's remind ourselves of some of the things
we have covered over the past weeks;

- You can't grow and grieve the Holy Spirit at the same time.
- More of the Holy Spirit requires more of us.
- To have more evidence of a deeper relationship on the outside, first happens on the inside. Allow the changes to happen on the inside first.

- We can't be fruitful on our own; we need to be connected to the source - the Holy Spirit.
- When we have been in the river of the Holy Spirit our eyes are open to all that God is doing around us.
- Continuous praying leads to continuous deepening. Without prayer we will not see the extent of the depths of what the Holy Spirit has for us.

Question1: Which of the past week's key points are you still battling to input into your life? How are you going to rectify this?

TIME TO REFLECT:

Big idea: The love of Jesus finds you. The Good news saves you. But the Holy Spirit comes alongside you to help you work out your salvation by drawing alongside us. He will not leave us the way He finds us. He will allow His Spirit inside of us to change us into who we were created to be.

How does the Holy Spirit do this?

He leads us to greater depths of revelation - and guides us into all truth. (John14- John16)

He leads us into great effectiveness. Through the gifts that He gives us.

1 Cor 12:4

4 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them. The One Holy Spirit distributes these gifts.

He leads us to great understanding.

1 Corinthians 2:10-12

10 But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets.

11 No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. 12 And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.

He leads us to greater depths of fruitfulness.

He leads to great depths of calling and purpose.

Acts 1:8

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Quote St Francis of Assisi - Do all you can to preach the gospel and if necessary use words!

Allow the Holy Spirit working through you to so transform your lives that people see Jesus in you. When we are taken to greater depths we will not remain the same.

TIME TO DISCUSS:

In our Ezekiel 47:1-6 text we have seen how the man leads Ezekiel to four different places. Let's look today at four ways to be led by the Holy Spirit remembering that when the Holy Spirit leads us he does not leave us the same.

1. Get to know the voice of God by meditating on the Word of God.

Joshua 1:8

8 Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

Be led by His voice. Don't just tick the box, but allow the Holy Spirit to make it **life** through His Holy Spirit. Meditating requires us to first stop, think, seek and reflect.

John 10:2-4

2 But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognizes his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice.

Make sure you are spending enough time in the Word of God that you know His voice.

2. We are led when we become doers of the word of God.

James 1:22

22 But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

We first need to hear then do. You have to make a choice to obey what God has called us to do and do it. **Prioritise Obedience.**

John 14:15

"If you love me, obey my commandments.

Our love is proved through obedience. We demonstrate our love through aligning our lives to God's plans and purposes and not our own will.

Question 2: Do you alter your lifestyle to fit the Word of God or do you alter the Word of God to fit your lifestyle?

3. We are led by the Holy Spirit when we value the Word of God more than anything else. We don't add anything to it or take anything away from it.

Proverbs 4:20-21

20 My child, pay attention to what I say.

Listen carefully to my words. 21 Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart,

Proverbs 3:5-6

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. 6 Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

God's word must take priority over our own understanding.

4. We are led by the Holy Spirit when we realise that we have been invited to be sons and daughters of the most High God.

Romans 8:14-16

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.

We can be secure because of our relationship with our Father in heaven. A loving God. Good Father.

Matthew 7:9-11

9 "You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? 10 Or if they ask for a fish, do

*you give them a snake? Of course not! 11
So if you sinful people know how to give
good gifts to your children, how much
more will your heavenly Father give good
gifts to those who ask him.*

We are not slaves or orphans but sons
and daughters.

ACTION STEP

Which of these four points do you need to
work on more this week?

Do you spend enough time in His Word to
know His voice?

Do you need to action something God has
told you to do, to be a doer of the Word?

Are you valuing God's word, that it is the only truth you live by?

How established is your identity as a son or daughter of God?

This week through obedience to God's Word and being led by His Spirit allow your eyes to be opened to what the Holy Spirit is doing and what God has for you.

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