



The Holy Spirit can be hard to understand. So when the Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible, He included self-portraits - visual portrayals of the invisible Spirit of God. Understanding these visuals - a dove, water, fire, and others - can provide insight into how God's Spirit works in and transforms Christians today.

**These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.**

**1** In the Bible, **God gave visible pictures of His invisible Spirit.** What do you find most confusing or mysterious about the Holy Spirit?

**2 Read Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:10-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-34.** All four Gospels give an account of the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus in the form of a dove at his baptism. What does this moment tell us about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?

**3 Read Luke 4:14-21.** The Spirit came to empower Jesus. The Jews long believed God's chosen Savior would be full of God's Spirit (see *Isaiah 11:2*). Why does it matter that Jesus lived dependent upon the Holy Spirit? In what ways was Jesus uniquely full of the Spirit (see *John 3:34*), and in what ways is Jesus an example to Christians?

**4 Read Genesis 1:2 and Genesis 8:6-12.** The Spirit came to remake the world. God's Spirit was part of creation, and today the Spirit is integral to God's new creation. What does this mean for Christians (see *2 Corinthians 5:17*) and how can we yield to the Spirit remaking us every day?

**5 Read John 1:29.** Just before testifying about the dove landing on Jesus, John calls Jesus the Lamb of God. **The Lamb takes sin away, and the Dove brings the Spirit to stay.** Why are both of those truths needed for our salvation and for good news?