



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** Assign the following passages to your group members to read aloud: **Isaiah 41:17-20; Isaiah 43:19-21; Isaiah 44:3; Isaiah 58:11; Psalm 63:1; Psalm 42:1-2**. Once you've read through them, reflect on what different ways water is used as a metaphor. Which passage spoke to you most and why?

**2** Read **John 7:37-39**. This passage has an open invitation and a bold claim: that **only Jesus can satisfy our souls**. What does this mean for us today? What do you think it means to "come to him and drink?"

**3** Read **Jeremiah 2:13**. God's critique of Israel is that they are trying to make their own water source. Our temptation is the same today. What "broken cisterns" are especially popular in our world? Which are most tempting to you?

**4** Jesus promises "rivers of living waters" to believers. According to the Gospel writer, this is a reference to the Holy Spirit. In what ways does the Spirit fulfill the Old Testament passages your group read earlier?

**5** Have your group read the following passages: **Titus 3:3-8; Ephesians 5:18-20; Romans 5:5; Galatians 5:22-25; Ephesians 3:16-19**. **Only the Spirit can make our souls thrive**. What are ways the Holy Spirit brings flourishing in our lives? Which passage speaks to your greatest need today?

