

This midweek study will explore why it's important for students to recognize that all humanity has inherited a sin nature that can only be overcome through the power of the Holy Spirit. Use the following main points, Scriptures, teaching/discussion ideas, and questions to help students gain a better understanding of the essential doctrine for this session.

Essential Doctrine: Deity of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity, possessing the fullness of deity like the Father and Son. His deity can be seen in the fact that He is eternal (Heb. 9:14), omnipresent (Ps. 139:7-8), the Creator and Giver of life (Gen. 1:2; Ps. 104:30; John 3:5-7), and directly identified with the Triune God (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).

1 The Holy Spirit is God (Gen. 1:1-2; Matt. 3:13-17; Acts 13:2).

Option: Ask students to honestly share how often they think about the Holy Spirit on a daily basis.

It is easy to forget Him, but the Holy Spirit is fully God just like the Father and Son.

Read Matthew 3:13-17.

- ▶ *What was the Holy Spirit doing in this passage?*

Read Genesis 1:1-2.

- ▶ *What was the Holy Spirit's role in these verses?*

In both of these passages, the Holy Spirit was active along with the Father and Son. The reason is simple: He is God, just like them.

2 The Holy Spirit is the primary agent of our regeneration (John 3:5-6; Titus 3:5-6).

Option: Ask students to list all the ways the Holy Spirit has impacted their lives.

Read Titus 3:5-6 and John 3:5-6.

- ▶ *Did you know the Holy Spirit did all of this? How does this change the way you view Him?*

Since the Holy Spirit is central to us becoming believers, we must learn to rely on His power in us to effectively witness to people who need the gospel. Without the Spirit's help, our evangelism would be in vain.

3 The Holy Spirit helps us become more like Christ (Rom. 8:13-14; 15:13; 1 Cor. 3:16).

Read 1 Corinthians 3:16 and Romans 8:13-14; 15:13.

- ▶ *How often do you remember that the Holy Spirit dwells within you when you are battling sin or fighting for holiness?*
- ▶ *Do you fight sin with your own abilities or by the power of the Holy Spirit? How can you learn to rely on the Holy Spirit in your battle for holiness?*

The only way for us to fight sin in our lives is by faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. As we make real choices to do the right thing, we trust that the Holy Spirit will empower us to abstain from evil and cling to what is good.

WRAP IT UP

- ▶ *How does knowledge of the Holy Spirit's deity change the way you view God as a whole?*
- ▶ *What are ways you can actively remember the Holy Spirit's role in your life and praise Him for what He does?*

The Holy Spirit, the third member of the Trinity, plays a crucial role in the life of every Christian. He is worthy of our praise for what He does.