

# CITY CHURCH DNA DEVOTIONAL – WEEK 9

## DNA Day 49 - The Holy Spirit and you part 1

Over the next fortnight we'll be looking at the person of the Holy Spirit. Each day, we'll explore how He shapes and transforms us, our friends and family, our workplace, our church, our city and our world. First of all, we're asking the question: **How does the Holy Spirit shape and define our identity?**

We can draw our identity from many places. Our initial identity comes from our name; in the British culture we live in, our surname denotes our family connections with our parents, spouse or children. Our place in our family is an integral part of our identity.

In Jesus' Kingdom, we are given a new identity because we are given a new parent. In his letter to the Romans, Paul makes this amazing statement about our new identity:

*And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **Romans 8:15–16.***

Jesus taught us to call God 'our Father'. In Romans 8 we are told that it is by the Holy Spirit we are able to do this. One of the roles of the Holy Spirit is to give us the inward certainty and assurance of knowing that we are adopted into God's family, fully accepted and beloved as children of God.

### **Pray**

**Father, I thank you that my identity is in You, as Your child. Jesus, thank you for Your death and resurrection which brought me into your family. Holy Spirit, remind me today and always that I am a child of God.**

## **DNA Day 50 - The Holy Spirit and you part 2**

Doing life can be hard. Doing life alone is even harder.

Our Father never meant for us to try and live this life alone without His companionship and help. In John 14, where Jesus prays for us before He faces the cross, He confidently promised that we would no longer be alone:

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. **John 14:16–17.***

As we walk out our purpose each day, we have the Holy Spirit to walk alongside us and to help us. Think about the challenges and tasks you have before you today – how does it feel to know you are not facing them alone?

### ***Pray***

**Father, thank you that by Jesus' death and resurrection, we have been restored back into relationship with You. Thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to walk alongside me, and to help me, in all I have to do today.**

## **DNA Day 51 - The Holy Spirit, your friends and family part 1**

We have been given the Spirit of Truth as our Helper and our Advocate. As He dwells within us, we are told He will 'guide us into truth'. Truth becomes our guiding light to help us navigate our relationships.

*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. **John 16:13.***

It can be hard to be truly honest with even our closest friends and family. Fear of rejection can keep us hidden and apart. But when we are truly ourselves—when we are brave enough to be vulnerable, to show up and be seen, we are living in step with the Spirit of Truth.

Are there people in your life with whom it is hard to be truly yourself? What would you need to be safe enough to be honest with those closest to you? Pray today that the Spirit would guide you into all truth.

### ***Pray***

**Father, You know every part of us and love us just as we are. Before You, we can bring our whole, true selves. We lift ourselves up to You. Thank you for Your love and acceptance. Help us to walk in step with Your Spirit of Truth amongst our friends and family.**

## **DNA Day 52 - The Holy Spirit, your friends and family part 2**

When we think about loving our family and friends, we can sometimes assume that it means those fuzzy feelings of warmth and affection we have for those closest to us.

In Jesus, we have a type of love which goes beyond our emotions: love as an action, deliberately doing good for other people, even when it costs us.

Both types of love can run dry—sometimes we don't 'feel' love, and sometimes we grow tired of 'giving' love as well. But Paul explains in Romans 5 that through the Holy Spirit, God has poured out His love into our hearts:

*And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. **Romans 5:5.***

So, we don't need to feel and give love out of our own capacity. Through the Holy Spirit, we have access to all the love of God, helping us love others just as He does.

### ***Pray***

**Father, thank you that through Your Spirit I have access to all Your love. Pour out Your love into my heart today: enough for me, enough for my family, enough for all my friends. Holy Spirit, help me see those moments where I can do good for them.**

## **DNA Day 53 - The Holy Spirit and your workplace part 1**

Yesterday we looked at how God fills us with His love through the Holy Spirit. Today, we're considering how He also gives us joy, peace and hope by the power of the same Spirit. Towards the end of his letter to the church in Rome, Paul prays:

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Romans 15:13.***

Joy, peace and hope are gifts from God, fruits of his Spirit which grow in us as we trust in Him. Throughout our lifetimes, by the Spirit's transforming work, they can change our very sense of ourselves. We don't just occasionally have more peace or joy or hope; we become hope-bearers, joy-givers, and peace-bringers.

As you walk into your place of work today, consider the work He is doing in you. Your most important role today is not your job title or description; it is being a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit, able to share with others the joy, peace and hope you have received from Him.

### ***Pray***

**Lord God, thank you for filling us with joy and peace as we trust in You. May we overflow with hope today by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Help us remember who we are as we carry You with us into our places of work today.**

## **DNA Day 54 - The Holy Spirit and your workplace part 2**

When we look at the world around us, we can struggle to feel hopeful. When I read the news and turn up to the place I need to do my work for the day—whether that's walking into the kitchen or the office—I can easily feel overwhelmed and almost despairing at the task ahead. I have certainly worked in places where I can gauge peoples' experiences by their levels of cynicism and world-weariness.

Let's consider Paul's prayer again:

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Romans 15:13.***

In Jesus, we have a hope which goes beyond the tasks of today and the needs of the world that we can never meet ourselves. We have a God of hope. He has promised to fill us to overflowing with His hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

As you walk in step with Him today, lift up your eyes beyond your own needs and tasks to the God who has all the love, power and resources this world requires. Let Him once more fill you with hope.

### ***Pray***

**Father God, thank you for sending Your Spirit who walks alongside us, helps us and fills us every day. Please fill us to overflowing with Your supernatural hope as we face whatever tasks and needs today brings.**