

WORKBOOK

THE  
POWER  
OF THE  
HOLY  
SPIRIT'S  
NAMES



TONY EVANS

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### **The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names Workbook**

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# MAKING THE MOST OF THIS WORKBOOK/PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

**T**his workbook and guide is a tool to help your group combine the video and subsequent Bible study into a dynamic growth experience. If you are the leader or facilitator of your group, take some time in advance to consider the questions in the Video Group Discussion and Group Bible Exploration sections of this guide, and then come up with personal examples to encourage discussion. Also make sure each individual has their own workbook, which will allow them to take notes during the group time as well as dig deeper on their own throughout the week.

Because every group session includes a video portion, think about the logistics. Before the session, ensure that everyone will be able to see the screen clearly and that the audio is set at a comfortable level. You don't want your group to miss anything.

Now let's preview the sections in each of the six sessions.

## **Video Teaching Notes**

Several key points and quotes from the video are provided in this section, and room to write notes is also provided.

## **Video Group Discussion**

Many of the discussion questions have to do with remembering what was just viewed, and this immediate follow-up is important; we can forget content unless we review it right away. Other questions in this section try to connect the video to emotions or experience. *How did you feel when Tony said that? Is that true in your life? Do you have the same issue?*

## Group Bible Exploration

This is a Bible study, so each session is grounded in Scripture. And because different levels of faith may be found within your group, this time in the Bible is not only to grow, but to also help others find their faith.

## In Closing

The goal for every Bible study is to apply what's learned. This section highlights the main point of the session and challenges participants to dive deeper.

## On Your Own Between Sessions

This section includes additional study participants can do to keep the content they just learned fresh in their minds throughout the week and encourages them to put it into practice.

## Recommended Reading

Your group time will be enhanced if everyone reads the recommended chapters in *The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names* book by Tony Evans before the next session. Tony's video teaching follows the book, but the book has considerably more information and illustrations. Everyone is encouraged to prepare ahead by reading the designated chapters.

## SESSION 1

# THE HELPER

The following is an excerpt from *The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names* book, serving as an introduction to the Holy Spirit and then focusing on Him as the Helper.

The Holy Spirit is the most misunderstood, marginalized, misused, and underappreciated member of the Trinity. On the one hand, He's ignored, and on the other hand, He's illegitimately sensationalized. Both extremes cancel or limit His work in and through God's people. That's why it's important for us to not only know the Holy Spirit more but as He really is.

The Spirit has a central role in the life of the believer and the empowerment of the church, with the distinctive task of making the reality and truth of God experienced in both. And because He possesses emotions, intellect, and will, He is to be related to on a personal level. He's to be *known*, not merely considered a force or power to be manipulated or used. Although He's nonmaterial, intangible, and invisible, He is nonetheless real and relational.

As with the other two members of the Trinity, one of the best means to understand, appreciate, and benefit from the person of the Holy Spirit is to explore the names and attribute descriptions He's given in Scripture. They explain how He lives those roles in us, through us, and for us.

My first goal in this book, then, is to identify, explain, and illustrate the Holy Spirit and His work through those descriptions and names. By the way, while some of the Holy Spirit's names and descriptions are not always capitalized as proper nouns as I write—just as they aren't in Scripture or at least in some Bible translations or paraphrases—they are nevertheless as significant to our study as if they were.

A second goal is to show believers how to relate to the person of the Holy Spirit in a more personal and intimate way. And a third goal is to help us learn how to take full



advantage of all the Spirit offers for our physical lives, our emotional lives, and most importantly, our spiritual lives. When we grasp how to do this, His availability can be maximized for our personal and collective growth and impact.

When we come to know the Spirit—again, not only more but as He really is—we can more intimately tap into the unique ways God reveals Himself to us. That's why we all need to understand that to the degree we take the person and work of the Holy Spirit seriously is the degree to which we will experience more of God...

Some English translations of Scripture don't use the word *Helper*. They use words like *Advocate* or *Comforter*. This is because the Greek term *parakletos* encompasses the Spirit's meeting all these "helping" needs, depending on the situation. God chose for the New Testament's inspired writers to define the Holy Spirit according to this particular name because it can fit a variety of circumstances and needs. It's a flexible term, so fluid that it more accurately reflects the Holy Spirit's ability to help us in times of need.

If you're depressed, the Holy Spirit can help you with encouragement. If you're discouraged, He can help you with new strength. If you're afraid, He can help you by calming your fears. If you're struggling, He can even ease the struggle. And if you're alone, the Holy Spirit can be your friend. He can flex to whatever situation you're in and whatever you need.

*The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names*, pages 9-10, 19-20

## Video Teaching Notes

As you watch the video, use the space below to take notes. Some key points and quotes are provided as reminders.

### Main Idea

- In His identity as the *paraklete*, the Holy Spirit serves believers as our divine Helper. He knows what we need, when we need it, and how to meet that need. The Holy Spirit carries on Jesus' will on earth now that He is ascended to the Father. He helps us live out our calling as kingdom followers of Christ.
- In the context of the upper room, just before His arrest and crucifixion, Jesus comforts His disciples. He tells them in John 14:1, "Do not let your heart be troubled." Jesus knew He would be going away, but He also knew He was about to send a Helper, the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17).
- The Holy Spirit softened the blow and shock of Jesus' leaving the disciples' presence.

He came to immediately provide what they needed right then and to all of us who would live after them.

- » The Holy Spirit would teach “all things” (John 14:26).
  - » The Holy Spirit would “testify” about Jesus (John 15:26).
  - » The Holy Spirit would guide into “all truth” (John 16:13).
- Personal Notes:

## **Application**

Your relationship with the Holy Spirit is a two-way connection, you with Him and He with you. Move toward the Spirit, remain in touch with Him, and watch what He will do. Pray consistently, study Scripture regularly, and turn to God in times of need.

## **Quotables**

- The word *help* is used as a summary term for all the variables the Holy Spirit can provide.
- This is the age of the Holy Spirit. As Jesus came to earth and was the visible manifestation of God, the Holy Spirit has now come to earth, the manifestation of Christ in history.
- With the Holy Spirit, we all have equal access to God and equal access to Jesus Christ.

## **Video Group Discussion**

1. In the video, Tony touched on some seasons or experiences in life when we may need help. He mentioned needing a mechanic if your car is broken or an accountant if your finances are out of whack. What are some other activities where you may need help? How do you feel about asking for help?

2. In the opening of the video, Tony said, “God has supplied someone whose job it is to come alongside you in the various areas of your life.” Why is it important to realize the role of the Spirit as a helper?

3. Look at a passage referenced in the video, John 14:16-17, and reflect on this Scripture in light of the following points of emphasis:

- *Forever.* Read also Matthew 6:13: “Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]”

How does this passage in John align with the provision of the Spirit as Helper from a time standpoint?

Why is it important to know that the Spirit’s help is not transient, offered for only a short time, but available forever?

- *Freedom.* Read also John 8:32— “You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

Can you think of a time when you experienced the freeing power of the truth and share it? What did that experience do to your desire to know truth and overcome the devil’s deception?

- *Fruit.* Read also John 15:4— “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.”

The word *abide* reflects intimacy and positioning. Describe what it means to you to abide in Jesus. Then describe what it means to you to abide in the Spirit.

How does knowing that God produces spiritual fruit as you abide in Him inspire and encourage you to abide?

4. In the video, Tony said the term *paraclete* “can mean counselor. It can mean comforter. It can mean advocate. It can mean assistant. The word can flow based on the situation that’s needed.” How does gaining clarity on the Holy Spirit’s various roles as Helper open your mind to His value in your life?

List three ways you can seek to make better use of the Holy Spirit’s help.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Once a greater reliance on the Holy Spirit’s help is established and tapped into, what can result?

5. Read the verses on page 12 and describe how each one relates to the role of the Holy Spirit as Helper in our lives.

1 Corinthians 12:4,11—“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit...But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.”

Acts 1:8—“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

1 Corinthians 2:13—“We also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.”

Knowing that the Holy Spirit has come to offer us help in so many ways ought to increase our interest in and focus on Him. He is a gift from God sent from above so that we will have all we need to fully live out the victorious kingdom life.

## Group Bible Exploration

1. Read the following verses and explore what they tell you about the Holy Spirit's ability to help in a person's life. Then share a practical example of what that might look like in a contemporary setting. Feel free to make it a personal testimony.

Romans 15:13—“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Help Given:

Practical Example:

Acts 2:4 — “They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.”

Help Given:

Practical Example (you may want to expand your thinking outside of speaking other languages):

Acts 4:31 — “When they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.”

Help Given:

Practical Example:

2. The Trinity is made up of three co-equal persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each one has a distinct role. As we saw in our introduction to the Holy Spirit, one of His roles is to provide help when we need it most.

Four key verses in Scripture enable us to gain a greater understanding of this role. Read each verse on page 14, and then reflect on what it means to you personally. Write down your thoughts and summary of each verse in the space provided.

- John 14:16—“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.”
  
- John 14:26—“The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.”
  
- John 15:26—“When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me.”
  
- John 16:7—“I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.”

As a Christian, you have never been alone. From the moment you trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation from your sins, you received the companionship of the Holy Spirit externally and internally. The reason the Holy Spirit remains present in both places is that, depending on the situation, you can need help in both areas of your life. Whether you're facing something in your external circumstances or struggling with internal thoughts or emotions, the Holy Spirit has positioned Himself to be available to you when and where you need Him the most. He is your helper and ready to help—all you need to do is ask.

3. Read Matthew 7:7 — “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”

In what ways do you take comfort in knowing the help of the Holy Spirit is as close to you as asking for it?

Have you ever considered this verse in connection with the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?

Why do you think God puts an emphasis on our role in asking for help when we need it rather than simply supplying the help He knows we need?

## **In Closing**

As you end the study today, share prayer requests related to seeking the Holy Spirit’s help in your life and your desire to cultivate your relationship with Him. Be specific about the areas you feel you most need to grow in and develop. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts throughout this study so you can come to know Him like never before. Also ask Him to guard and protect your priorities, time, and passions to enable each of you to finish this study in its entirety.

Before session 2, complete the “On Your Own Between Sessions” section below.

## **On Your Own Between Sessions**

1. In the book, Tony goes into greater detail on the Holy Spirit’s role in our lives as a valued helper, distinguishing Him from an impersonal Being to who He truly is. He wrote,

The Holy Spirit, as the third person of the Trinity, is not an “it.” He’s not just a



“power” to turn on and use, although we’ll later see that power is one of His attributes. He’s a person present both alongside each of us and within us. And as a person, He desires for you to relate to Him as much as anyone else would want you to relate to them.

He also possesses intellect, emotion, and volition. He’s not a robot where you get to push buttons and He obeys. He is not AI. The Holy Spirit exists as a relational Being formed of an immaterial essence in order to abide both with you and in you throughout your life.

One of the reasons we don’t witness His help as much as we could is that we have relegated Him to robotic status. We’ve viewed Him as something to use, not Someone to know. If anyone in your life just wants to use you and clearly doesn’t care about you, you know how your heart turns away from helping them. But that’s often how we relate to the Holy Spirit.

My point here is that too often believers just want to use Him at will. And unless you and I truly understand and explore ways to relate to the Spirit and engage with Him, we will never fully experience the benefits He makes available to us.

*The Power of the Holy Spirit’s Names*, pages 22-23

Read Isaiah 11:2 and then Zechariah 4:6:

- The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him,  
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
The spirit of counsel and strength,  
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD of hosts.”

The Holy Spirit works in myriad ways to provide help when we need it most. It’s the Spirit’s power that enables us to live out the will of God in our lives. What are some ways you’ve witnessed the Spirit help you accomplish things too big for you to accomplish on your own?

What are some things in your life that might hinder you from looking to the Holy Spirit for help? They could be distractions or emotions.

What can you do to lessen these distractions or better inform these emotions? Will you try? Why or why not?

2. Isaiah 11:2 (see above in question 1) lists a number of descriptive terms for the Holy Spirit. Describe each one in your own words.

Draw from those descriptions to form your own definition of the Holy Spirit's role as Helper.

3. The Holy Spirit longs to help you. He loves you. He seeks an abiding relationship with you. What are some things you can do to better cultivate your relationship with the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit desires a personal relationship with you. He doesn't want to be considered a robot who performs at your command. How does knowing that the Spirit desires your focus and heart to be set on Him make you feel?

Ask the Spirit to enlighten your eyes in order to see Him more clearly. Seek to come to know Him more than you do now or have known Him in the past. Spend regular time recalling the ways the Spirit has helped you in the past, and then thank Him for that help.

#### 4. Life Exercise: Getting Intimate with the Holy Spirit

*Identify* a time when you can spend concentrated and focused energy on your relationship with and communication with the Holy Spirit.

*Consider* several ways to nurture your relationship with the Holy Spirit during this season of focus on Him. That might mean writing freely about what you're thinking concerning the Spirit or what you sense you're hearing from Him in a notebook. Or it could mean reading the Word of God and meditating on the various manifestations of the Holy Spirit recorded in it.

*Evaluate* how your relationship deepens as you spend more focused time reflecting on the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

*Repeat* in the weeks to come. Incorporate the various aspects we're studying about the power of the Holy Spirit's names into your daily intimate time with God.

### Recommended Reading

In preparation for session 2, please read chapters 2–5 of *The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names* book.