



HERE WE ARE TO WORSHIP
Empowered by God: *Being filled with the Holy Spirit*
Small Group Study, week commencing 16th January 2023

For starters

For a bit of fun, introduce the theme of hunger. Describe what it feels like to be really hungry or times when you have felt the hungriest.

Study

1. Hungering after more of God's presence is a sign of spiritual health. As God's children we are hardwired to want more of his love and presence in our lives. Ellen used this quote from Billy Graham in her message:

“Everywhere I go I find that God's people lack something. They are hungry for something. Their Christian experience is not all they expected and they often have recurring defeat in their lives. The most desperate need of the nation today is that men and women who profess Jesus be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

Any thoughts on why Billy Graham would say this? Do you agree that this is a desperate need? What might it look like for a Christian to hunger after God?

2. The Holy Spirit is a gift promised to all who believe. Look up and talk about what you can learn from these verses where we see the promise.

- Acts 1:4-5
- Acts 2:36-39
- Galatians 3:14

The Holy Spirit is promised but we will only receive Him if we ask.

3. Read Luke 11:5-13. Does anything in particular stand out from this passage when you read it in the light of seeking more of the Holy Spirit? God is a generous Father and has more to give. Do we need to adjust our understanding of God in order to receive more fully?

4. It would be good to make space during your small group to share any stories you have had of meaningful encounters with God during corporate worship or alone in



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private: times when you have experienced being filled with the Holy Spirit or known His presence tangibly.

5. Read Ephesians 1:17-19. It is Paul's prayer that the Ephesian Christians might know more of God's hope, riches and power. What might hinder us from praying such a prayer or expecting God to answer it?

Prayer

Pray for one another (using the prayer from Ephesians if it helps) to be filled again with the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.