



Part 1: Wind/Breath // Jeff Brodie // March 8, 2026



You can't see breath, but without it, you can't live. From the opening pages of the Bible to the resurrection of Jesus, God's Spirit is described as breath—creating life, restoring hope, and awakening hearts. Yet many people are hesitant about leaning into the Holy Spirit. But what would happen if you did?

Scripture: [John 3:1-12 NLT](#) // [1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 NLT](#)

Bottom Line: A safe faith rarely becomes a living faith.

Don't miss the special section of questions and activities at the end of this group discussion guide that are meant to help us reflect, pray, and take simple next steps as Easter approaches.

Digging In:

Reminder: The goal is a good discussion, not completing every question. Use these as a tool to help.

1. When you hear the words "Holy Spirit," what thoughts or images come to mind?
2. Many Christians are willing to pursue Bible reading, prayer, and church—but are passive about the Holy Spirit. Why do you think people are sometimes hesitant about the Spirit?
3. Read John 3:1-12 together. Nicodemus sees Jesus doing miracles but still struggles to understand what God is doing. Why do you think it can be easier to observe someone else's faith than to personally experience it?
3. The sermon introduced the idea of "functional cessationism"—believing in the Holy Spirit but living as if he isn't active. Where do you see this happening in modern Christianity?
4. Jesus compares the Spirit to wind. What do you think this metaphor teaches us about how the Holy Spirit works?
5. Nicodemus wants explanation before experience, but often in Scripture people experience God first and then understand later. Why do you think we tend to prefer explanation before experience? Where have you seen this in your own faith journey?
6. Culture often teaches us to stay safe, remain in control, and avoid risk. How might that mindset make it harder to follow the Spirit?
7. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21. Are you someone who tends to stifle the Spirit or who doesn't test the Spirit? Why are both principles important?

8. The Holy Spirit turns what you know is *true* into something you know is *real*. What does this look like in everyday life? Has this happened for you?
9. Jeff shared a formula: *Intimacy + Holiness + Faith = Experiencing the Spirit's Power*. Which of these three inputs do you feel God inviting you to pursue more intentionally right now?

Looking Forward:

This week, ask yourself where you may be resisting the Holy Spirit and bring this forward transparently in prayer. Let this be your daily request: "Come, Holy Spirit. Reveal your heart to me. Make me attentive to your leading and directing. Help me surrender to you today."

Easter Invitation // Group Reflection & Prayer

At Connexus, we want to be the easiest church to invite our friends to. Invitation isn't about pressure or persuasion—it's about loving people well and trusting God with the results. These questions and activities are meant to help us reflect, pray, and take simple next steps in these four weeks leading up to Easter.

Week 1 // Rethinking Invitation

Reflection Questions:

- When you think about inviting someone to church, what comes to mind for you—excitement, hesitation, uncertainty? Why?
- Think about a time someone invited you into something meaningful. What made that invitation feel safe or genuine?

Group Activity:

- *Invitation Stories:* In pairs, briefly share a story of a meaningful invitation you received (church or otherwise).
- As a group, identify what those invitations had in common.
- Close by praying that God would help us see invitation as an act of love, not pressure.