



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 7: When the Spirit Comes
Suggested Week of Use: April 16, 2023
Core Passage: John 15:26-27; 16:7-15

News Story Summary

Storms come in many different forms. Over the last few weeks, many weather-related storms could have caused individuals to lose hope or become discouraged. Yet, even in the midst of the devastation, testimonies of God's work among His people continue to be shared.

For example, the towns of Rolling Fork and Silver City, Mississippi, recently experienced an F4 tornado. Entire communities in that region were decimated. Once the storms had passed, an evangelist and his ministry team arrived on the scene to offer help and encouragement. They wanted to serve the many physical needs that resulted from the storms. However, their greatest role was to "bring comfort, faith and hope to residents there." They were striving to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Recovery will take a long time. In the process of helping to rebuild, though, believers can find opportunities to share the hope we have in Christ with those who need to hear.

For more about this story, search "Tornado victims aided by Samaritan's Purse."

Focus Attention

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, say: *The last few weeks have been incredibly difficult from many people because of weather-related tragedies.* Share the information about the Mississippi towns hit by a tornado recently. Point out that living in a fallen world may seem unbearable at times, and it would be easy to get discouraged by all the heartbreak around us. Say: *Yet, even when things seem completely, out of control, we can remember that God remains sovereign.* Explain that this week's session reminds us that the Holy Spirit is continually pointing people to the only truth that will provide real comfort in life's most difficult storms.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, remind members of the small towns in Mississippi that were struck by the F4 tornado. Say: *Even in the worst of storms, we are not alone. The presence of the Holy Spirit indwells those who are His, and He will constantly remind us of the truth.* Encourage adults to lean into the Holy Spirit in every situation, whether good or bad. Point out that the storms will still come in life, but we will never navigate them alone. Close by praying that each individual will recall the hope they have in Christ alone.