



holy spirit encounter
groups edition

Spirit Encounter

Study Guide & Training Manual

Welcome!

You are about to embark on an adventure of discovering more of the Father's love, friendship and intimacy with Jesus, and the powerful presence and work of the Holy Spirit. No matter who you are or where you have come from, there is more of God's goodness to be discovered.

This guide goes along with the Holy Spirit Encounter video teachings found on the reKindle.tv website, which is a ministry of the Western Canadian District of the Christian & Missionary Alliance. These videos were originally recorded at Stoney Plain Alliance Church in 2016 for their own use. Over time, others began to use the videos as a resource for churches and small groups and it seemed good to make them more widely available and provide this guide as a training resource. You will notice that throughout the videos, the speaker refers to "the weekend." The original weekend series has been divided into sessions that are more manageable for a small group setting and at a pace that will allow participants to take the time to engage deeply in the material.

This document is both study guide and training manual. The prayers and tools offered here are a framework for engaging with the material and may introduce you to new ways of praying and engaging with God. They are not formulas and are simply meant to guide you rather than restrict you. Feel free to adapt them in ways that serve you.

Joining together on this journey of Encounter is exciting. The group of people you are gathering with today will be transformed. By the time you have completed the course of this material, you will be more deeply in love with Jesus, more fully experiencing the work of the Holy Spirit, and better equipped to be on mission with Jesus releasing His kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven. Commit to gathering regularly for this course. Establish your small group as a place of confidentiality and safety. Commit to sharing and learning from each other with humility and curiosity and without judgement.

What's needed for these sessions?

- An open, humble, curious heart and mind.
- The Bible, this guide, and the video series.
- For *Session Three (Expectancy without Agenda)*, you will want to have communion elements.
- *Session Nine (Ministry from Above)* refers to a clip from a video called *Holy Ghost Reborn* by Darren Wilson. Though it is not necessary to have access to this video, it is helpful, and you might be able to acquire a copy through your church library, local library, or it is available for purchase online.
- While it is not required for this series, Doug Balzer's book *The Empowerment Pivot* is a helpful resource for the material covered. Other recommended reads can be found at the end of this guide

Holy Spirit Encounter Contributors

Doug & Teri Balzer — Presenters

This Holy Spirit Encounter is taught and led by Doug and Teri Balzer. Doug and Teri originally began developing this material with Ric and Ruth-Anne Gilbertson in 2013 with a desire to renew the churches understanding and experience of Jesus through his Spirit. The teachings of Rob Reimer, Martin Sanders, and Ron Walborn also helped form some of the material before you. They have since led more than sixty spiritual renewal events in six countries. Doug has a Doctor of Ministry from Alliance Theological Seminary (New York). He is the Director of reKindle and serves the Western Canadian District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance as a Spiritual Renewal Catalyst. Doug is the author of *The Empowerment Pivot: How God is Redefining our View of Normal* and *Light Up the Dark: Restoring Healing & Deliverance to Disciple Making*.

Doug and Teri have two adult sons, a labradoodle (Josie), and are based in Calgary, Alberta.

You can access more of Doug's work at rekindle.tv and www.dougbalzer.com

Michelle Dwyer — Study Guide and Training Manual

This study guide and training manual was developed and written by Michelle Dwyer, she gladly assumes credit for all errors and omissions contained therein. She is an ordained minister with the Christian & Missionary Alliance and has a passion for igniting fires of hope as well as equipping and empowering people to partner with God in living out the adventure of his mission to restore all things.

Michelle and her husband, Brian have three young adult children and make their home in the Peace Country of Alberta.

You can access more of her work at www.MichelleDwyer.ca