

# CIRCLE UP!

## YOU'VE GOT SOME EXPLAINING TO DO

Today's Bible interaction tool is what I call, "Circle Up!". On Episode 73 of the More Than a Song podcast, I used Francesca Battistelli's version of "Holy Spirit" to lead us to a variety of Scriptures that reveal Who the Holy Spirit is and how our lives should be different because of His presence in them.

So what how can you use Circle Up! in your study of Scripture? This week we are seeking more knowledge about the Holy Spirit. Jesus teaches quite a bit about the Holy Spirit in John chapters 14-16 -- so I recommend you start here. Either print out a section of Scripture (use [BibleGateway.com](http://BibleGateway.com) or some other online Bible resource), type up or write out the section of Scripture you are studying by hand (this is actually another Bible interaction tool that we won't unpack here), or mark right in your Bible (trust me...it's okay). Read through the text and circle every mention of the Holy Spirit (including synonyms like *Advocate* and pronouns like *He* or *His*). Then, in a study journal or separate column answer the question, "What did you learn from circling each reference of the Holy Spirit?"

As you can imagine, interacting with God's Word takes more time than quietly reading or listening to it, but it's totally worth it! Using this Bible interaction tool, you will force yourself to explain the text in detail instead of passively reading over it. By doing this, you will increase your understanding, and it will flat out sink into your memory better! Check out my example below.

### John 14:15-17 NLT

15 "If you love me, obey my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. 17 He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

### What did I learn?

*The Holy Spirit will see things in my life and be my spokesperson to God for things I need even if I don't see them myself. I can't run Him off, He will never leave me. I am seeking truth and He is my leader! The Holy Spirit cannot lead me into deception. I will not "fit in" to the world when trying to understand Him or talk about Him because the world doesn't even recognize Him. This crazy idea that I have that the world is looking to fill the empty hole with the Holy Spirit is false...it isn't even looking for Him. The Holy Spirit was with the disciples in the person of Christ and now lives within me.*