

Purpose

- To orient the group to Dunamis I - Gateways
- To develop rapport that will lead to active participation and meaningful sharing

Discussion

Tip: To some, the teaching in video lesson 1 may seem like “old hat,” so you want to help the group get excited about what’s ahead.

Questions/Suggestion

- Have group members introduce themselves.
- Ask each one to share a good experience of the Holy Spirit. This gives you insight into their background and lets them teach each other.
- Ask if anyone wanted something from the video clarified.
- If it seems helpful at this point, *very briefly* share the main teaching of the series – the distinction between the Holy Spirit *within* to grow our character and *upon* to empower for witness and action.

Prepare group for the exercise.

- Let them know that during each exercise they will ask the Lord for insight/direction, and that He will respond.
- Teach briefly on how God communicates with us, by having participants share experiences of how each one has “heard” from God. Present this as a review so the group teaches each other. Fill in what isn’t mentioned. [God “talks” in many ways: as a voice, an impression, through symbols, visions, dreams, scripture, song, an emotion.]

Exercise

- Some may have started this exercise ahead of time. Note that the final paragraph of the exercise in the manual wasn’t included in the details page they got ahead of time – so those who think they finished the assignment still have something else to do.
- For those who haven’t started the exercise yet, assure them that they don’t have to finish the it – indeed they won’t have time. Ask them to continue it at home.
- Arrange for them to have prayer partners. In the first week, you can have them work with the person next to them. (It’s faster if you assign the partners.)
- Leave ample time for solo work.
- Let them know when it’s time for sharing and prayer.