



The American Anglican Council's "Anglican Traditions" videos are free for anyone to use. These facilitator notes are meant to act as an aid to getting the most out of the "Fire in the Fireplace" videos and are designed for small group use. The series is divided into a prologue and 17 lessons with each having its own study guide and facilitator notes. Many thanks to Dolly McLemore of Christ Church Montgomery, AL, whose work forms the basis for these study guides. Find other videos at www.AnglicanTraditions.com.

These facilitator notes are for Lesson 3: Character of the Comforter

Canon Ashey's statements.

- "The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus."
- The Holy Spirit is "rebuilding my personality from the inside out – why can't he work a little faster?"
- "Why are so many Christians messed up and broken?"

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)

10 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.

- "Old testament imagery are pictures of new testament truth." A picture of baptism. "The rock that Moses struck (where the water came out) is a picture of Christ himself who is the source of living water."

The story of Nehemiah (Comforted by God) – the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 1 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)

1 The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah. In the month of Chisleu, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capital, ² one of my brothers, Hanani, came with certain men from Judah; and I asked them about the Jews that survived, those who had escaped the captivity, and about Jerusalem. ³ They replied, 'The survivors there in the province **who escaped captivity are in great trouble and shame; (NOTE: Refer back to Canon Asheys opening statements. Just because we are Christians does not mean we are perfect.)** the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been destroyed by fire.'

⁴ When I heard these words I sat down and wept, and mourned for days, fasting and praying before the God of heaven. ⁵ I said, 'O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments; ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for your servants the people of Israel, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. **Both I and my family have sinned. ⁷ We have offended you deeply, failing to keep the commandments, the statutes, and the ordinances that you commanded your servant Moses. (NOTE: The sins of disobedience to God's**

Word.)⁸ Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, "If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples;⁹ but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are under the farthest skies, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place at which I have chosen to establish my name."¹⁰ They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great power and your strong hand.¹¹ O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man!

At the time, I was cupbearer to the king.

Romans 7:21-25 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ **but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. (NOTE: Refer back to Nehemiah)** ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 8:1-2 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)

8 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

- "Coming along side to weep and grieve and rebuild and restore us with authority from the King Himself and to set a time for it to be done." "What a wonderful gift is the Holy Spirit."
1. How was Nehemiah a picture of the Comforter?
 2. Why did Nehemiah grieve for Jerusalem and for what reason did he want to restore the walls?
 3. Why did some object to him rebuilding the wall?
 4. **How does Canon Ashey compare the state of the walls and gates of Jerusalem to our own lives?**
NOTES: This was emphasized in the lesson.
 5. Has anyone objected to what the Holy Spirit is building in you?
 6. **Describe how the Holy Spirit has come alongside you to repair and restore you. (NOTE: Refer back to Paul in Romans 9)**
 7. The rebuilding of the walls and the gates of Jerusalem was a joint effort. Who has helped you to rebuild? How have you helped others to rebuild?
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Optional: *I Believe in the Holy Spirit*, Michael Green

Chapter 6 - The Spirit in the Individual

The Battle (Pages 105-110) "Power over the fallen 'flesh' is possible only when the Spirit is given control by our act of deliberate choice. He has the power to overcome my fallen appetites, but he will not use it in me unless I ask him." (bottom of page 109)

"Mercifully, the Spirit works deeply within my subconscious self. When I am so self-centered that I would not dream of asking the Spirit for his strength, preferring to go my own way. **I am encouraged to recall that 'God is at work in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure'** (Phil. 2:13). We shall not be mistaken in seeing that as a reference to God the Holy Spirit. **He it is who not only empowers us to do right, but works in us the desire to want to do right, without which we could never dream of turning to ask him for his strength."**

"But that strength is available to all who are in Christ. It is none other than the superhuman power which raised Christ from the dead which is let loose within our human bodies (Eph. 1:18).

8. Have you asked the Holy Spirit to change you from the inside out, to control all your life including all your choices?

COME HOLY SPIRIT!