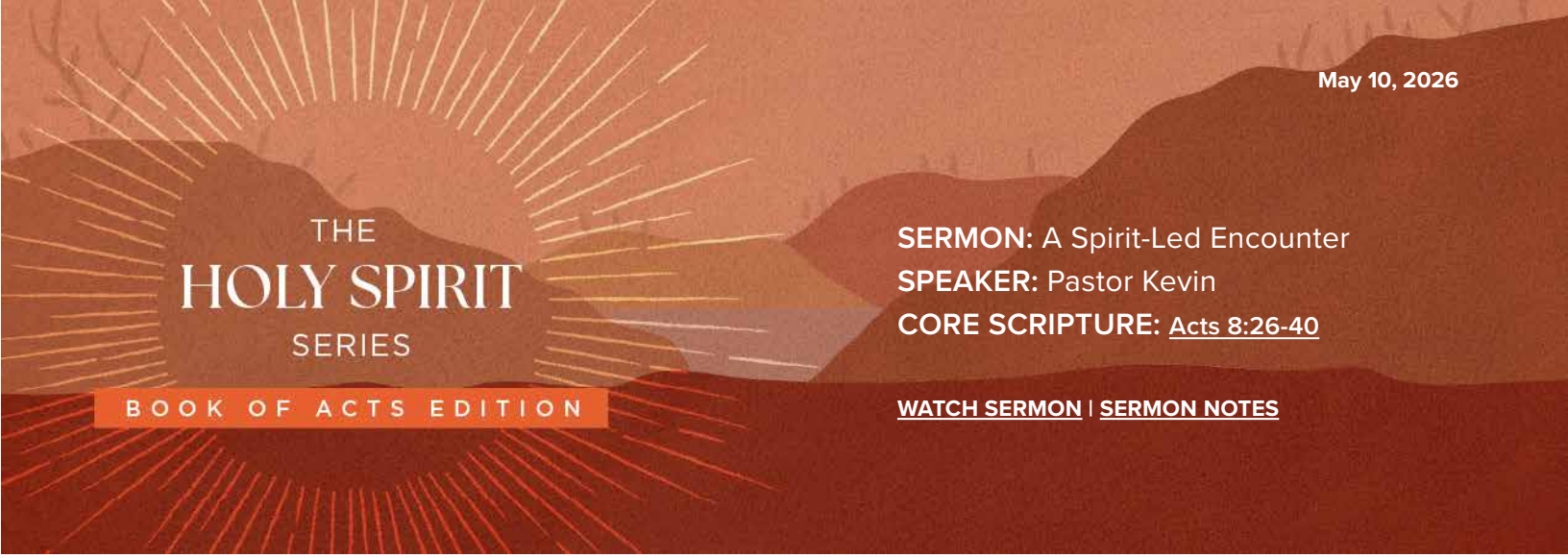

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUMMARY

Pastor Jeremy explores how the Holy Spirit orchestrates divine encounters in our everyday lives. Through the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8, we discover that God cares deeply about individual people—so much that He will arrange circumstances to reach them. Pastor Jeremy challenges us with three key practices:

1. Be ready to follow the Spirit's prompting,
2. Recognize where the Spirit is already at work, and
3. Point the conversation to Jesus.

The message reminds us that Spirit-led encounters don't begin with full clarity—they begin with simple obedience. Our job isn't to make something happen, but to join what the Holy Spirit is already doing.

SHARE

Think of a time when someone reached out to you at just the right moment—maybe a text, a phone call, or a conversation that felt "meant to be." How did that encounter impact you?

READ

Let's read **Acts 8:26-40** together out loud as a group.

DISCUSS

Feel free to pick/choose what is most helpful for you. Remember, the goal is to have rich, relational, authentic, Jesus-centered discussions.

1. What stood out to you the most about the sermon?

2. In Acts 8:26-33, we see both an angel and the Spirit giving Philip specific instructions. What does this passage reveal about how God orchestrates divine encounters? How does the Ethiopian's

own spiritual seeking (reading Isaiah, traveling to worship) show God's preparation on both sides of the encounter?

3. Pastor Jeremy shared the story of walking to work and encountering the exact person he'd been praying for. Have you ever experienced a "Holy Spirit prompting"—a person coming to mind, a nudge to reach out, or a sense you should say something? What held you back from responding, or what gave you the courage to act?

4. Look at Acts 8:30-31. Philip asks a simple question: "Do you understand what you are reading?" He doesn't force a conversation or prove anything—he simply joins what the Spirit is already doing. What does this teach us about how to approach spiritual conversations? How does this remove the pressure we might feel?

5. In Acts 8:32-35, the Ethiopian is reading Isaiah 53—a prophecy about the Suffering Servant. Read Isaiah 53:4-6 together. How does Philip use this Old Testament passage to explain the good news about Jesus? What does this teach us about pointing people to Jesus through Scripture rather than our own arguments?

6. Pastor Jeremy emphasized that "your job isn't to make something happen—your job is simply to join what the Holy Spirit is already doing." Where do you see the Holy Spirit already at work in your neighbourhood, workplace, or school? Who has been coming to mind lately that you might need to reach out to?

YOUR NEXT STEPS

- Pay attention this week: Notice who comes to mind. Keep a simple journal or notes on your phone of any promptings, people, or conversations that feel like the Spirit's invitation.
- Respond with simple obedience: Send that text. Make that call. Offer to pray for someone. Don't overthink it—just take one small step of obedience.
- Practice Philip's question: When spiritual conversations open up, try asking gentle, curious questions like "What do you think about that?" or "Does that make sense to you?" rather than feeling pressure to have all the answers.
- Share the story of Jesus: If God opens a door this week, practice pointing to Jesus using the framework Pastor Jeremy shared—God's good creation, humanity's choice to go its own way, Jesus stepping in to restore what was broken, and the invitation to join His restoring work.

PRAY

Take time to pray together as a group:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to make you more aware of His promptings this week—to notice who He brings to mind and to give you courage to respond.
- Pray for specific people in your life who are far from God—that the Holy Spirit would be at work preparing their hearts, just as He prepared the Ethiopian.
- Pray for boldness and humility—that you would trust the Spirit to guide conversations and that you would point people to Jesus, not just to information.
- Pray for one another by name, that each person would experience a Spirit-led encounter this week where they can join what God is already doing.

CONNECT TO THE BODY

Keep an eye out for upcoming community events and workshops at **The Hub**, where our church is joining God in the neighbourhood. Whether it's **serving** opportunities, connection **events**, or ways to bring hope to our community in Markham, York, Stouffville, and Scarborough, consider how your group can participate together. When we show up as the body of Christ in our neighbourhood, we create more opportunities for Spirit-led encounters.

CLOSING

As you go this week, remember: the Holy Spirit cares enough about one person to set up divine encounters. And He wants to use you. You don't need to be perfect—you just need to be obedient. Pay attention. Respond. And watch what God does.