



Course Series Syllabus: *The Spirit-Filled Life*

Institution: Charles Stanley Institute

Course Series Length: 18 Sessions

Format: R.E.A.D. Club (Book-based study with video instruction, guided reflection, and community discussion)

Level: Foundational Christian Formation

Prerequisites: None

Course Series Description

The Spirit-Filled Life is an eighteen-session R.E.A.D. Club course series designed to guide believers through Dr. Charles Stanley's book, *The Spirit-Filled Life*, chapter by chapter. Each session corresponds directly to one chapter of the book, allowing students to engage the material slowly, thoughtfully, and prayerfully.

As Dr. Stanley reminds us, "*If the Christian life was simply a matter of doing our best, there was no need for God to send the Holy Spirit to help us.*" This course series is built on that conviction. The Christian life is not sustained by personal resolve alone, but by the indwelling presence and empowering work of the Holy Spirit.

Unlike other Charles Stanley Institute course series, *The Spirit-Filled Life* is intentionally designed as a reading-centered experience. Students are encouraged to read each chapter carefully and to engage the accompanying teaching, reflection, and discussion resources in order to fully absorb the biblical truths presented. The goal is not speed or completion alone, but transformation as believers learn to depend on the Spirit and walk in obedience to God's will.

Course Series Objectives

By the end of this course series, students will be equipped to:

- Understand the person and work of the Holy Spirit as revealed in Scripture.
- Recognize the Holy Spirit as Helper, Counselor, Teacher, and source of spiritual power.
- Reflect on the necessity of the Spirit's work in daily Christian living.
- Apply biblical truth about the Holy Spirit to personal decisions and spiritual growth.
- Cultivate greater sensitivity to the Spirit's leading through Scripture and prayer.
- Engage meaningfully with other believers in encouragement, prayer, and accountability.

R.E.A.D. Club Learning Framework

This course series follows the Charles Stanley Institute's R.E.A.D. Club model, designed to foster deep engagement and faithful obedience:

READ

Students read one chapter per session from *The Spirit-Filled Life* by Dr. Charles Stanley, treating the book as the primary course text.

EXAMINE

Through Scripture, guided reflection, and teaching videos, students examine the biblical role of the Holy Spirit and His work in the life of the believer.

APPLY

Students prayerfully consider how God is calling them to respond, making intentional life adjustments in light of what they are learning.

DISCUSS

Students engage in community discussion—sharing insights, asking questions, praying together, and encouraging one another as they pursue a Spirit-filled life.

Course Series Content and Learning Resources

This R.E.A.D. Club course series integrates resources designed to support both individual study and communal growth:

1). Core Reading

The Spirit-Filled Life by Dr. Charles Stanley (18 chapters)

2). Video Content

Short, focused videos accompany each chapter, highlighting significant themes and reinforcing key biblical concepts.

3). R.E.A.D. Guides

Guided materials help students reflect on each chapter, engage Scripture, and apply truth in practical ways.

4). Community Discussion Forum

An interactive forum allows students to connect with other participants, discuss what they are learning, pray for one another, and grow together.

5). Course Series Sequence

- Chapter 1 | A Wonderful Spirit-Filled Life
- Chapter 2 | My First Encounter
- Chapter 3 | The Indwelling Spirit
- Chapter 4 | D-Day
- Chapter 5 | My Life as a Branch
- Chapter 6 | The Faither Factor
- Chapter 7 | Keeping in Step
- Chapter 8 | What Does it Look Like?
- Chapter 9 | The Power of the Produce
- Chapter 10 | The Giver of Gifts
- Chapter 11 | Doing God's Work God's Way
- Chapter 12 | The Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Chapter 13 | The Holy Spirit: Our Guide
- Chapter 14 | Preparing to Hear: The Principle of Neutrality
- Chapter 15 | Marker 1: Peace
- Chapter 16 | Marker 2: The Conscience
- Chapter 17 | Marker 3: The Word of God
- Chapter 18 | Marker 4: Wisdom

Theological Emphasis and Learning Approach

The Spirit-Filled Life is grounded in a Trinitarian understanding of God and a high view of Scripture. The Holy Spirit is presented as the personal presence of God at work in believers—not an abstract force or optional aspect of the Christian life.

Throughout the course series, students are encouraged to move from self-reliance to Spirit-dependence, recognizing that obedience, discernment, and spiritual fruit are produced through submission to God and reliance on the Spirit's power.

Intended Audience

The Spirit-Filled Life is designed for believers who desire deeper understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit's work. It is well-suited for individual study, small groups, and ministry leaders seeking a biblically faithful resource for spiritual formation. No prior theological training is required—only a willingness to read attentively, reflect prayerfully, and engage honestly.