

Walking In The Spirit

Is This A One Time, Or Daily, Decision?

Ephesians 1:13 Ephesians 5:15-18

There is a *HUGE* difference between the Spirit **dwelling** in us,
and being **filled** with the Spirit.

The Role Of The Spirit:

John Chapters 14-17

The Spirit shows us:

Who **God is**.

Who **we are**.

What **life is about**.

How To Walk In The Spirit:

Galatians 6:7-10

We need to **tune him in**.

We need to **stay tuned in**.

We need to **obey what we hear**.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of April 2, 2017

Welcome to the Spring Quarter of Growth Groups!

This week we kick off our Spring Growth Group Quarter. Your first meeting will include a potluck dinner, time to get acquainted, as well as time to discuss your Growth Group Covenant. The homework has been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish this.

To prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great first meeting as you come together to connect and encourage one another to grow and to see God work!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. If you could go on a road trip with any person dead or alive (besides Jesus), who would you choose and where would you go?
2. This weekend Chris talked about how the Holy Spirit works in our lives. As you look back on your Christian life, has your understanding of the Holy Spirit changed? If so, explain.
3. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. We heard this weekend how difficult it is to try to live the Christian life on our own strength rather than relying on the Holy Spirit and the power he provides. What do the following verses teach us about relying on the Holy Spirit's power rather than our own?

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁷ or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Zechariah 4:6 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁶ So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

Galatians 2:20 *New International Version (NIV)*

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Relying on God's power does not mean we give up personal responsibility to make good choices to live the Christian life.

How could a person balance relying on God's power while still maintaining personal responsibility?

Can you think of any challenges a person could face in trying to tap into God's power to live the Christian life?

2. Chris talked about how life works best when we stay tuned into the Spirit and stop living for the old self. What motivations can you find in the following passages to help keep you consistently tuning into the Spirit and not living according to your sinful nature?

Galatians 6:7-8 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

Hebrews 12:7-11 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰ They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Which of these do you find most motivating to you? Which is least motivating?

TAKING IT HOME

Chris shared 4 questions to ask ourselves to determine if we have the Spirit. Take some time to think about each of these questions and then jot your answer down (you won't have to share your answers to these questions in your group).

- Has the Spirit led me to Jesus?
- Has the Spirit put in me the desire to honor Jesus?
- Is the Spirit leading me to be more like Jesus?
- Is the Spirit at work in my heart?

LAUNCHING YOUR GROWTH GROUP QUARTER

Every quarter a group meets, it's interesting to see how God works as you get to know each other better, apply God's Word and encourage each other to grow. What are you looking forward to in your Growth Group this quarter?

THE PURPOSE OF GROWTH GROUPS

Growth Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another, and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church because we are the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom.

WEEKEND OF SERVICE

We're just four weeks away and projects are beginning to fill up! If you or your group hasn't signed up yet, the sooner you sign up, the more options you'll have. Sign up at all of our weekend services or online @ weekendofservice.com.

THE POWER OF THE T-SHIRT

Don't forget the "Power of the T-shirt" and get your newly designed Weekend of Service T-shirt for \$5 at any of our weekend services or at the church offices during the week.

