

## Small Group Notes based on The Spirit 1

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **The Spirit**
- We as "The Church" have an important job: The Great Commission.
  - We need help! Fortunately helping us through the Holy Spirit is part of God's master plan!
  - That sounds good, right? But have you ever been uncomfortable with the Holy Spirit?
- Why do people resist the Holy Spirit? Discuss these 3 Scriptural reasons:
  - 1: Seems weird.
    - **John 14:15-17.** Neither sees nor knows. Just foreign stuff.
    - **1 Corinthians 2:12-14.** Seems like foolishness.
    - "What you are not down with you are down on."
  - 2: Goofy people associated with the Holy Spirit.
    - **1 Corinthians 14:23.** Isn't it nice to know this is in the Bible? ☺
      - But these are good people being misunderstood. What about actually bad people?
    - **Romans 2:23-24.** People look at false Christians and judge God. How much more the Holy Spirit!
      - Lots of gifts but no fruit is just a heinous contradiction.
      - Have you known hyper-spiritual people who were just bad people?
  - 3: People don't want to change.
    - There may be things in your life that push you away from God...but you want to keep those things. This ends up causing you to resist the Holy Spirit.
    - **John 3:16-21. Focus: v19-20.**
      - Do you think everyone has been there to one extent or another?
  - Don't be afraid, just come and see what the Lord has for you.
- Let's talk New covenant!
  - **Jeremiah 31:31-34.** How is the law written on our minds and hearts?
    - Through the Holy Spirit!
  - Jesus immerses us in the Holy Spirit: **Matthew 3:11-12.**
    - Spirit – good! Fire – bad! Trust Jesus on this one.
  - There is power for doing "our job" associated with this: **Acts 1:4-8.**
- Then the New Covenant is explained in Romans. That is helpful!
  - **Romans 7:4-6.** So there is still law, like **Matthew 12:30**, we just should know it without having to read it!
  - **Romans 8:1-4** How many "laws" are mentioned in these verses?
    - The law of sin and death. Bad news. This is the "fire" from Matt 3:12.
    - The law of the Spirit of life. This sets us free in two ways: from the consequences of sin (through forgiveness) and from following sin.
    - The law of God in two ways: the written code and the Spirit.
      - Now that the law of God is written on our hearts we can follow it and feel it. That makes us able to fully meet the requirements of the law! How?
  - So, all that means is that we should be able to look inside to see what right and wrong is. Be honest with this though. What might happen if we continually ignore what we know to be true?
  - **John 16:12-13.**
    - Here Jesus is saying, "I know this isn't clear for you, but just trust me. Good things are coming." If that is the place you're at right now, stick around for this series!
- Pray for each other before you finish up!