

## Small Group Notes based on The Spirit 2

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.
- This Week: There is more to the Christian life than "getting saved."
  - It's good to be forgiven and brought into the Kingdom of God! But that is the start of a new life, not a "Get out of Hell Free card." **Romans 6:4, Acts 5:18-20**
  - That new life is a life of following the way of the Spirit.
- How did this work in the Bible? Let's look at some examples.
  - Believers in Samaria. **Acts 8:14-17**
    - These people believed the message. Had they received the Holy Spirit yet?
    - How did they receive the Holy Spirit?
  - Paul the Apostle.
    - Miraculous conversion. **Acts 9:1-9**
    - Ananias' visit. **Acts 9:10-19**
      - This is 3 days after Paul's vision. Do you think he was a believer?
      - Had Paul received the Holy Spirit yet? How did he?
  - Apollos and the Ephesian disciples.
    - Apollos. **Acts 18:24-26**
      - So, what is this more adequate way?!!?!????? Come on Luke!
    - Ephesian disciples. **Acts 19:1-7**
      - If this is an explanation of the deal with Apollos, the more adequate way is going from a baptism of repentance to a baptism in the Holy Spirit.
  - Do you think it is safe to say that the normal Biblical example is for converts to Christianity to have additional significant spiritual experience after salvation? Why or why not?
- How has this worked for you?
  - Did you receive John's baptism? (Repentance.)
    - If not don't expect to get farther. This prepares the way. So what are you waiting for? (**Acts 22:16**, this is from Paul's account of his experience with Ananias.)
  - Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?
    - If not, then pray. Have a trusted spiritual leader lay hands on you if you would like.
    - Just don't get all weird and insecure about it. Relax and receive. No judgment and no faking here.
  - If you are "Spirit filled" then be part of the solution rather than part of the problem. Love first, instruct second.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!