



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: The Biblical Pattern (Week 1) – February 5, 2023

*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only." (James 1:22) **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Pastor Sam said, "If we are going to lead a movement then we have to do it the way Christ did it." List as many traditions as you can think of which either you or the church practice, which are not commanded by Scripture. Discuss.

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Genesis 3:8. Pastor Sam said, "When we look at scripture, we have two book ends and everything else works within that framework. We have Genesis and Revelation, the beginning, and the end. You have a perfect creation and unity with God, then perfection lost. And so was the relationship with God, and then perfection regained with unity restored for eternity just like it began. What does Genesis 3:8 the first bookend establish? What did God do when Adam and Eve sinned (Genesis 3:24-25)? God didn't just banish them, before He banished them what did he tell them (Genesis 3:15)? What is the key take away in this verse for all humanity?"

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Revelation 21:22. What does this verse mean? Where will God dwell for eternity? Pastor Sam said, "There was no building in the beginning and there is no building in the end." In the beginning God dwelt in Eden because all creation was perfect without sin. In the end, because Jesus conquered all sin, heaven will be perfect without sin just like the garden. Thus, there is no need for an isolated temple for God to dwell in.

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Exodus 25:8-9, 17-22. If there was no building in the beginning (Eden) and there will be no building in the end (Heaven), why was there a building between Eden and Eternity? Was the Tabernacle supposed to be a permanent structure? Where was God's throne on earth, His meeting place with His people (verse 22)? What had to be done for God to inhabit or dwell in the Tabernacle? God can only inhabit or dwell in something that is not sinful. For God to dwell in the tabernacle the High Priest had to sacrifice a lamb because the penalty of sin is death, So, an innocent lamb died in the place of a guilty human. The priest would sprinkle the lamb's blood over the ark of the covenant to represent that the Law had been fulfilled and sin had been paid for.

DOING THE WORD

At the Day of Pentecost God chose to dwell in His people (1 Corinthians 3:16). Why would God no longer want to be confined to a building but dwell in humanity? God does not need a physical house or temple to dwell in because we have become the temple. You are one of millions of temples! Let that sink in. That means there are now millions of places where God's presences are represented. Now God can go anywhere with us. God no longer wants to be confined to a building, but instead He dwells in humanity so He can inspire and empower us to go and build His kingdom everywhere not just in Jerusalem. What can you do as individuals and as a group to build God's kingdom today? This week? Close by asking God to help you live out the Biblical pattern and lead a true movement that will transform your community and the world. It all starts with one!