



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: Biblical Pattern (Week 4) – February 26, 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 discussed how Adam and Eve's immediate and natural response to sin was to hide from God. They didn't want to be in God's presence while in their sinfulness. We have all experienced conviction over sin. How does unconfessed and unrepentant sin affect our closeness to God?

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Review: Exodus 16:10; Exodus 24:15-18; Exodus 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11; Luke 2:9; John 2:11; Romans 3:23; John 17:4-5; John 17:22-23. What pattern do you see in these scriptures? (Tabernacle → Temple → Jesus → Us). If God's ultimate goal is to be reunited with His creation, how was He going to restore the glory that was lost in Eden? How was He going to restore our ability to reflect His greatness to all creation?

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read John 1:14. As Jesus is walking with two of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, He began to teach them (Luke 24:27) "...beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself." He plainly explained to them that the Word of God had become flesh and dwelt among them. To 'dwell' means to 'tabernacle among us'. Tabernacle is the moveable presence of God. How did God establish His presence within us? (Colossians 1:19-22)

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read 1 Corinthians 3:16-17. Why do we need to be presented as holy and pure before God? If we are not holy and pure then the presence of God can't dwell in us. We are now God's temple. God 'tabernacles among us'. We are God's moveable temple. His presence goes wherever we go. When you surrender your life to Christ you are no longer walking alone. God is with you everywhere you go. He sees you. He loves you. He chose you. He is constantly conforming your character to reflect the image and nature of Christ. Have you fully recognized the potential, benefits, gift, and responsibility of carrying the presence of God everywhere you go? What opportunities do you have in your present life circumstances to 'be' the church...the moving presence of God for others to see and experience God through you?

DOING THE WORD

In 1 Peter 2:5, Peter reminds us that we are the temple of God. And by being the temple of God we are called to daily make sacrifices in our lives to maintain the relationship with God that we have through what Christ did. To sacrifice something means to let it go or give it up. This doesn't necessarily mean bad things, but things that you are giving up for Christ (Romans 12:1). What are some things you feel God may be calling you to let go of and surrender to Him for His purpose and glory?