

Week 9- "Supernaturalized"

In this series we have looked at the reality that we all seem to know that there are things in our lives that need to change, and we have a desire to grow and become better versions of ourselves. In this week's message we wrap up the series by discovering who the Holy Spirit is, how He helps us change at the core of who we are, and how he helps us grow in our faith.

1. What stood out to you from the message?

2. When we talk about the Holy Spirit, what are you curious about or what questions do you have regarding the Holy Spirit?

3. How would you describe your understanding of the Holy Spirit's role in your life? How does He help you? What does it mean to "sense His presence" in your life?

Read John 7:37-39

Christianity is not you trying to live up to an external moral code, or trying to change yourself. Christianity is what happens when you trust Jesus and He puts His spirit in you. You are no longer defined by your broken human nature, but defined by Him. His Spirit gives you the desire to do His will, and you begin to want to live in a way that reflects Him.

3. How can someone recognize when they are striving to fix their brokenness without God's help?

4. What do you think it practically looks like to trust that the Holy Spirit has changed you at the core, and that He gives you everything you need to live a life that reflects His?

Ezekiel 36:26-27 says: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws."

5. Where have you seen your heart shift in its desire to please self, to a desire to do what God wants you to do?

Leaders, we trust your discernment in asking these reflection questions. If you do know someone in your group is not a Christian, you can invite them to share their questions about who Jesus is, or what faith in Him looks like with you. If you need help finding resources to answer their questions you can ask a Groups staff member for help.

6. If you are a Christian and if you feel comfortable sharing in this group, what is something you are trying to change on your own and how will you surrender to Jesus for help?

7. If you are not a Christian and you feel comfortable sharing in this group, what are the reasons that hinder you from placing your faith in Jesus and allowing the Holy Spirit to enter your life?

8. What are some practical steps you can take this week to ask the Holy Spirit to help you discover in a deeper way who He is and how to discern His voice?

9. How can this group support you as you lean into the Holy Spirit for help in changing what you cannot change on your own?

Christianity teaches that God has made us to be the best versions of ourselves and He has given us a pathway to get there. In this series, we have looked at 9 things that God uses to change us and grow us, however we don't want the 9 strategies to be what you set your focus on when it comes to the change and growth you desire. Dane Ortlund says this in his book "I do not have 9 things to say. I have one thing to say. Look to Christ. You will grow in Christ and you direct your gaze to Christ. If you take your eyes off Jesus Christ and direct your gaze to your own growth, you will prevent the very growth you desire." So if you want to grow, set your eyes on Jesus. The point of all of this is to discover, develop, and deepen your relationship with Jeus, through the help of His Spirit in you!