

# RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide  
November 1, 2015



## Ghost Stories – Week #2

### INTRODUCTION:

1. This week Jeff reminded us that God is a promise keeper. As you think of your life and your relationship with God, share an example with the group of a time that God has kept His promises in your life.

### DIVE IN:

1. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit comes on particular people, for a particular task, for a particular time. In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit becomes an indwelling in the life of a believer. This means if you're a follower of Jesus, you have the Spirit in you. Now. Ongoing. Permanently. How does this change your perspective on God's work in your life?
2. Pastor Jeff used the term "Born Again" on Sunday to refer to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Had you ever connected the Holy Spirit to being "Born Again" prior to the message? In the past, what did you think it meant to be "Born Again"? Was it a term you found to be confusing, or even in some sense derogatory to describe a specific type of Christian?
3. Read through John 3:1-8 and Romans 8:15-16 together as a group and then answer the questions that follow.

John 3:1-8

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you."

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

"What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"

Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

Romans 8:15-16

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.

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4. Pastor Jeff asked the direct question on Sunday – “Have you been born again?”. As you read these scriptures and hear that question, do you have confidence in your salvation? If so, why? If not, why not?
5. What does it look like in your life to recognize the spirit's affirmation in your life that you are born again as one of God's children?

## NOW WHAT:

1. What part of this week's message has had the greatest impact on you? What truth(s) has God taught you through the message and our group discussion?
2. What do you need to do with that truth this week to become a fully engaged follower of Jesus?