

Small Groups Study Guide: Read the entire Passage first

- Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Other passages to look at: —2 Corinthians 4:16, John 15:4–5; Hebrews 3:12–13; James 1:2–4; 2 Peter 3:18

READ THE PASSAGE

What does this passage tell us about God? Who He is and what He does.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him

What fills our mind will forge our hand. (vs 9)

Whatever fills us controls us (vs 9)

This influence of the Spirit is from an intimate relationship with God (vs 9)

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin,, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

The purchase and the promise does not immortalize our physical body (vs 10)

Sin sentenced our physical body to death, but Jesus' life and work supplies eternal life for our soul (vs 10)

¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

The same Spirit who raised Jesus will resurrect everyone who belongs to Jesus. (vs 11)

The Spirit's indwelling presence is therefore both a present possession and a future promise. (vs 11)

Put into Practice: —How to grow in grace

[] Time with God

[] Vulnerability with People

[] Surrender to God's will

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. According to Romans 8:9, what is the difference between living “in the flesh” and living “in the Spirit”?

References: Romans 8:5–9; Galatians 5:16–17, 22–25

2. According to Romans 8:9, what does the presence of the Holy Spirit reveal about our relationship with God?

References: 14–16; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20; Ephesians 1:13–14

3. How can we continually be filled with the Holy Spirit?

References: Ephesians 5:18–21; Colossians 3:16–17; Galatians 5:25

4. According to Romans 8:10–11, what hope does the indwelling Spirit give us when our bodies suffer, weaken, or age?

References: 2 Corinthians 4:16–18; 1 Corinthians 15:42–44, 52–53

5. Which practice would most help you grow in grace right now: time with God, vulnerability with God’s people, or submission to God’s will? Why?

PURPOSE OF SMALL GROUPS

Small groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth together in deep Christian relationships through the application of God’s Word. The goal is to care about each other enough to ask the BIG questions of life, such as, what is God doing in your life? What is He asking you to do about it? Then walk with each other through

sharing, caring, praying, serving, and mobilizing each other.

SHARING – We come together each week to share a meal, God’s Word, and how His story impacts our daily walk.

CARING – We gather together each week to ask great questions, listen to understand each other, and what God is doing in and through our lives.

PRAYING – We meet together to pray with each other. Not just to speak to God, but to hear from Him each week in community, and daily individually.

SERVING - We work together, using our unique gifts, to serve one another by God’s grace and build the body in love each week.

MOBILIZING – We are praying for our neighbors by name and pray through “Good Events” once a quarter.

Leader’s Guide (WITH SUGGESTED AND HELPFUL ANSWERS)

Main Purpose

Help your group see that the gospel is not merely behavior improvement but identity transformation. In Adam, sin and death reign. In Christ, grace reigns. Because of this, we rejoice — not just in what God does, but in who He is.

Pathway

When people move off track of the purpose, point to Scripture and remind people of the purpose.

Understanding the Questions

1. According to Romans 8:9, what is the difference between living “in the flesh” and living “in the Spirit”?

Biblical Answer: Living in the flesh means allowing our sinful desires to direct our thoughts and actions. Living in the Spirit means relying upon the Holy Spirit and submitting to His direction. Every believer still battles the flesh, but the Spirit gives us power to resist sin and pursue obedience.

References: Romans 8:5–9; Galatians 5:16–17, 22–25

2. According to Romans 8:9, what does the presence of the Holy Spirit reveal about our relationship with God?

Biblical Answer: The Spirit’s presence confirms that we belong to Jesus and have been adopted into God’s family. God is not distant from His people; He lives within us through His Spirit and assures us that we are His children.

References: 14–16; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20; Ephesians 1:13–14

3. How can we continually be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Biblical Answer: We do not receive more of the Holy Spirit; instead, we increasingly yield every area of our lives to His influence. We are continually filled through prayer, God’s Word, worship, obedience, and dependence upon Him.

References: Ephesians 5:18–21; Colossians 3:16–17; Galatians 5:25

4. According to Romans 8:10-11, what hope does the indwelling Spirit give us when our bodies suffer, weaken, or age?

Biblical Answer: Although our present bodies are affected by sin and death, the Spirit is renewing us inwardly and guarantees that God will one day raise our bodies to everlasting life.

Christian hope rests in the bodily resurrection of Jesus and the promised resurrection of everyone who belongs to Him.

References: 2 Corinthians 4:16–18; 1 Corinthians 15:42–44, 52–53

5. Which practice would most help you grow in grace right now: time with God, vulnerability with God's people, or submission to God's will? Why?

Biblical Answer: God grows us as we remain close to Jesus, receive encouragement and correction from other believers, and faithfully submit to Him, even through suffering. Spiritual growth is gradual, but the Spirit faithfully uses these practices to make us more like Jesus.

References: John 15:4–5; Hebrews 3:12–13; James 1:2–4; 2 Peter 3:18