

Small Group Discussion Questions

Not in a small group? Contact us at smallgroups@myriversidechurch.com

Ice Breaker: What is the wackiest self-help project/class/gadget you've ever tried? What was the result?

Talk It Over Together: *(Note: If your group is only meeting bi-weekly, cover the first 2 discussion questions of each week. If time allows, go back to the remaining questions.)*

1. Read and discuss Romans 7:14-24. Have you ever felt the way Paul did when he wrote this? Why is the battle to overcome sin so difficult? Why do we need the Spirit to guide us through this process? Why does this battle feel so strong at times?
2. Read Romans 7:25 and 8:1-6. Have you ever struggled with a "try harder" mentality? What was the result? Contrast this with a time when you have allowed the Spirit to do His work in your life or you have seen this in the life of another Christ follower.
3. Pastor Chip outlined three R's that we should follow to be filled with the Holy Spirit: **R**ecognize it's God's Will, **R**enounce Sin, and **R**espond to God. Read and discuss Ephesians 5:17-18. Which one of the R's is the most difficult for you? Has responding to God ever been a challenge to you as He's taken you down a path you didn't expect or think you could handle?
4. Read Galatians 5:22-25. Take some time as a group to pray together, asking the Spirit to fill you so that the fruit of His Spirit is evident in your life.

Personal Reading

As you read through each passage, consider answering 3 simple questions: What did I learn about God from what I read? What did I learn about myself? What is God asking me to do as a result?

Day 1: John 14:15-31

Day 3: Romans 12:1-2

Day 2: Galatians 5:13-26

Day 4: Romans 8:14-16



KEEP CALM

"KEEP CALM AND FOLLOW THE SPIRIT"

CHIP GARRISON, PASTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JULY 6TH, 2014





"Keep Calm and Follow The Spirit"

July 6, 2014

By *Children's Ministry Pastor,*
Chip Garrison

MESSAGE NOTES

Why is the _____ so important? There is an inner _____ within us.

Galatians 5:16-17

Too many of us are trying to live a good moral life, but doing so with _____ methods and resources that are not sufficient to empower us to live a Christian life.

1. The _____ of the conflict

Romans 6:6-7

The war with sin and its consequences has been won ultimately by Jesus Christ—the battle we encounter is for our _____.

Romans 6:16

2. Why do Christians still _____?

James 1:13-15, Romans 7:15, Romans 7:21-24

"What he desires to do is the law of God, he delights in it, he recognizes that it is 'holy, and just, and good'. But, for all his desire to obey God's law, he is compelled by the malignant power within to disobey it.

This unequal struggle against the law of sin which is in my members' (as Paul calls it) has been the real experience of too many Christians for us to state confidently that Paul cannot be speaking autobiographically here—and in the present tense too." (F.F. Bruce)

I'll never overcome this habit.
I'll never be able to live like a Christian should.
I just can't make it as a Christian.
I'll never act like... _____
The Christian life is not a difficult life, it's an impossible life.

We need _____ to intercede on our behalf.

3. The _____ we need

Romans 7:25

'Our problem is that when we try to use _____ and methods, we will always fall short and _____ in the battle.'

Romans 8:1-6

That person we need is the _____

Being _____ with the Spirit is a command.

Ephesians 5:18

The Spirit filled life allows us to deal with sin no longer _____.

The Christian life is _____ without being filled with the Holy Spirit.

So how do we _____ the Holy Spirit?

R_____ it's God's will *Ephesians 5:17*

R_____ sin

Secret sin, even holding on to the possibility of sin, will _____ us from experiencing the _____ of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

R_____ to God

Luke 11:13, Romans 12:1-2, Romans 8:16

1 John 2:18-26

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can use the connect card to let us know about your commitment, too!