**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

 **Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*Series: From the Inside Out*

*Sermon: “False Assumptions” (9-15-19)*

***Group Leaders & Host Homes*** *: Thank You for your service to the Lord and to your group by faithfully opening your homes and through leading the groups in discussion. May God richly bless you as you continue to participate in this disciple making ministry.*

**Group Announcements (Leaders: Please review prior to start)**

**1)** Welcome everyone to your group.

**2)** Please remind all group members to commit to letting group leaders & host homes know in advance if they cannot attend group. Set this as a standard.

**3)** Review all instructions: Start time, childcare instructions, refreshments, how you will communicate as a group and parking.

**4**) Leaders: Please allow enough time for prayer at close.

1. **Getting To Know Each Other** *Please use these questions as a time for people to informally talk and get to know each other. Since this is our first week, it may be good to let this time go longer than usual.*

**1**) Go around the room and have everyone introduce themselves. Welcome new group members.

**2**) Then go around again and ask each person to share ‘one word’ that best describes this past summer for them personally. Acknowledge that it may be hard to do but try to encourage them to do that. Once the word has been shared follow up with each person to share ‘why’ they chose that word.

* **Opening Prayer**. (Either leader, host home or someone who is willing to pray out loud)

*(Notes from message for reference only – use only as needed)*

**\*\***Use Sermon notes bulletin insert

* **False Assumptions About the Holy Spirit**
* 1) The Hiding Ghost 2) The Substitute Teacher Ghost 3) The Credal Ghost 4) The Magical Ghost
* > God authored the old covenant through the law; God authored the new covenant through Spirit of God. > The defining mark of the new covenant believer is the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit of God. > The Spirit of God did the work in us, as we trusted in the person and work of Christ for us.
* **Contrasts Between Old and New Covenant**
* **1**) The old covenant was written with ink on stone tablets; the new covenant is written with the Spirit of God on our hearts. **2**) In the old covenant, we are ministers of the letter of the law that kills; in the new covenant we are ministers of the Spirit that gives life. **3**) The old covenant was marked by an external temporal glory that has faded; the new covenant is marked by the indwelling ministry of the Spirit which gives surpassing, permanent glory. **4**) The old covenant brought the ministry of condemnation through the law; the new covenant brought the ministry of righteousness by the Spirit. **5**) The old covenant was shrouded by a veil of unbelief over their hearts; the new covenant Spirit of the Lord removes the veil and the believer is marked by freedom and transformation.

> More than anything else, the earliest church was a supernatural movement of the Holy Spirit.

**Into The Text** (15 Minutes) (Leaders: This time is not meant to be application yet, this is time in the Word, before we seek to apply truth, we need to understand the meaning of the text. The section after this one will focus on application.)

1. Ask someone to read 2 Corinthians 3:1-3. *Ask*: *What is the Old Covenant? What is the New Covenant?* *What has been written on our hearts, not written with ink, but with…? Why is it significant for us to understand that the Spirit has been written on our hearts? Why is that different from the old covenant?*
2. Ask someone to read 2 Corinthians 3:4-6. *Ask: What are we ministers of according to V6? What does Paul mean when he said that the letter kills but the Spirit gives life? Who does he give life to?*
3. Ask someone to read 2 Corinthians 3:7-11*. Ask: What eventually happened to the glory that was on Moses’ face after he had seen a glimpse of God? Is the glory of the Spirit that indwells believers better than the glory of Moses? Why? List some reasons.*
4. Ask someone to read 2 Corinthians 3:12-18*. According to V17, there is freedom where the Spirit of the Lord is; if the Spirit of the Lord indwells us, what does that freedom mean for us? What does the word ‘this’ refer to in the last line of V18?*

**Application & Discussion** (15-20 Minutes)

1. Say: Let’s move to application. *Ask: Go around the room and share some of the wrong assumptions we may have regarding the person of the Holy Spirit and his role in our lives. Did any of the false assumptions shared in the sermon resonate with you? If so, which ones and why?*
2. *On a scale of 1 to 10, how vital ‘should’ the Holy Spirit be in your ability to please the Lord? Using the same scale, how vital of a role is he currently playing in your Christian walk?*
3. *Ask: Why is it significant to understand that the Holy Spirit works from the inside out? What will we seek if we understand that? What will we seek if we think he works from the outside in?*
4. *Ask: If you are a true believer, is the Holy Spirit indwelling you? According to 2 Corinthians 3, is that better than Moses seeing a glimpse of God? Do you believe and live like that?*

**Prayer Time**:

We will now close with a time of prayer. Our prayer for tonight is simple. Let us all ask the Holy Spirit to open our eyes, minds and hearts to his very real presence in our lives. Ask him to remove all false assumptions and to give us ears to hear and eyes to see who he really is and who he should be in our lives.