**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

 **Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*Series: From the Inside Out*

*Sermon: An Introduction to the Holy Spirit*

 *9-22-19*

1. **Getting To Know Each Other** Ask everyone in the group to answer. Opening Question: **Today was our outdoor foundation service, what impacted you the most about it?**
* **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

* **Introductory Truths of the Spirit**
* 1) The Holy Spirit is God.
* 2) God is three distinct persons – one of whom is the Holy Spirit
* 3. Each person of the trinity is fully God – including the Holy Spirit.
* 4) There is only one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
* **Reasons for Understanding Holy Spirit**
* 1) The Holy Spirit is the designated person of the Godhead in whom you can know the triune God personally.
* 2) We are living in the age in which the ministry of the Holy spirit is most prominent.
* 3) The Holy Spirit is the person through whom the Christian life becomes tangible and alive for humanity.

**Into The Text** (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 truth. The section after this one will focus on application.)

1. Ask someone to read Genesis 1:1-2. *Ask: What does it mean that the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters? Why is it significant that the Spirit of God was present at creation?*
2. Ask someone to read 1 Corinthians 2:9-12. *Ask*: *What does this passage reveal to us about the Holy Spirit? What does the Spirit search? Who comprehends the thoughts of God? What do these things tell us about the Holy Spirit?*
3. Ask one or two people to read all of Psalm 139, or go around room with each person reading one verse. *Ask: According to V7, is there any place we can hide from God’s Spirit? Is David equating God’s presence with the Spirit’s presence? What does that tell us?*

**Application & Discussion**

1. Say: **Let’s move to application and discussion**. *Ask: How should we handle it when people ask us to explain the trinity? What should we not do? Ask if anyone has any questions about the trinity. Try to work through those questions as a group*.
2. *Ask: Is it easier for you to visualize the Father and the Son as God than it is the Spirit? Why do we sometimes struggle with seeing the Spirit as God? List some reasons.*
3. *Ask: Is God incomprehensible? Is God still knowable? How do we handle that tension? How does the Spirit help us with knowing an incomprehensible God?*
4. *Ask: Can you get to know the Father or Jesus better without the Spirit? Why not?*
5. *Ask: What are you hoping to learn through this study of the Holy Spirit?*

**Closing Prayer Time**: **(Leader Say:**) Let’s close with a time of prayer. Acknowledge the Spirit as God in your prayers. Let’s continue to ask the Spirit of God to reveal himself to us. (*Ask someone to open, let people pray as they feel led, and then leader closes.)*