**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

**Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*Series: From the Inside Out*

*Sermon: The Force Is Not With Us!*

*10-13-19*

* **Getting To Know Each Other** Ask everyone in the group to answer. Say: Today we talked about the force not being with us. **Opening Question: Go around the room and have each person share their favorite science fiction movie of all time**. 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

**The Person of the Holy Spirit**

1) Jesus refers to the Spirit as a helper, comforter, advocate – all personal language.

2) Jesus refers to the Spirit with personal pronouns – more personal language.

3) Jesus clearly teaches that the person of the Spirit is ‘in’ us.

**Implications of the Personhood of the Spirit**

1) Because the Spirit is a person, he dwells in us, works in us, and lives through us.

2) Because the Spirit is a person, he can be grieved and quenched.

3) Because the Spirit is a person, he is to be intimately known, deeply loved and unashamedly worshipped.

**Evidence You May See the Spirit as a Force and Not a Person.**

1) You seek the power and gifts of the Spirit while ignoring the person of the Spirit

2) You see the power and presence of the Spirit as nothing more than an emotional experience.

3) You see the power of the Spirit as something you need to learn to wield.

4) You treat the power and presence of the Spirit as something that can be conjured or summoned from the outside in.

5) You treat the Spirit like an object that exists for your own purpose and pleasure.

**Does Spirit Indwelling = Omnipresence**

>The omnipresence of the Spirit is not the same as the personal indwelling presence of the Spirit in the believer. The indwelling presence of the Spirit is intensely personal!

**Don’t Ask:** How can I get more of the Holy Spirit?

**Instead Ask:** How can the Holy Spirit have more of me?

**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 John 14:15-17. *Ask: The ESV translates ‘paraclete’ as helper, does anyone have another translation of that word? What is Jesus trying to convey about the person of the Holy Spirit with that word? How long will the Spirit be with us according to V16?*
2. *Ask*: *Jesus said the Spirit dwells with us, how is that possible? When Jesus told his disciples that the Spirit would be ‘in them’, how would they have understood that? Did Jesus ever say anything about the Spirit being a force or object?*
3. Ask someone to read Romans 8:12-17. *Ask: According to V14, who are sons of God? What did Paul mean by ‘Spirit of adoption’ in V15? Are we able to cry Abba, Father without the Spirit indwelling us? Who bears witness that we are children of God (v16)?*

**Application & Discussion**

1. Say: **Let’s move to application and discussion**. *Ask: What does it mean to you that the person of the Spirit of God literally indwells you? How do you reconcile what that means in your life?*
2. *Ask: How did it impact you to consider that you can grieve (cause sorrow) the Holy Spirit? What are some ways that we can quench the Holy Spirit? Have we become comfortable with grieving and quenching the Spirit? How can a biblical understanding of the personhood of the Spirit help us to keep from grieving and quenching the Spirit?*
3. *Ask: Which of the ‘evidences’ resonated with you the most? Share with the group. Discuss any/all of the evidences as a group as needed.*
4. *Ask: Should we be trying to see the Holy Spirit as more personal or less personal? Why is it easier for us to see Jesus as personal and the Spirit as impersonal? What sense does that make considering that the Spirit is the one indwelling us and not Jesus? Is Jesus ‘in us’ or at the right hand of the Father?*
5. *Do you need more of the Holy Spirit? Why is that the wrong question? How can the Holy Spirit have more of you?*

**Closing Prayer Time**: **(Leader Say:**) Let’s close with a time of prayer. Acknowledge the indwelling Spirit within you and ask him to have more and more of you.

(*Ask someone to open, let people pray as they feel led, and then leader closes.)*