



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Spirit Blockers – Part 3 PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Into the Word:

Read Galatians 5:16-25

- a) What is significant about Paul calling the Christian life a "walk" (v. 15) and the Spirit as someone we actually "live" by (v. 25)?
- b) How would you explain what it means to walk by the Spirit or keep in step with the Spirit or live by the Spirit?
- c) When Paul says in v. 18 that if you are led by the Spirit then you are not under the Law, what does he mean? Can Christ-followers violate God's commands or do whatever they want?

Apply the Word:

- a) How has your understanding of the Holy Spirit changed through this series? Who is the Holy Spirit to you?
- b) How might you be quenching the Holy Spirit in your life?
- c) Let's review 4 of the 5 steps from the sermon about how we can experience God's presence in our life. As we review them, ask 1-2 people in your group to share what taking this step might look like in their life.

From the Sermon:

- 1) Deal with our will (our ego, our independence from God, etc)
- 2) Know the world's false claims (deceptive promises and patterns it offers to us)
- 3) Re-see the world (as God's theatre; every moment ripe with expectancy).
- 4) Re-envision spiritual disciplines (as paths to God, not a box to check).

- d) Share a situation and the particular promise you are trusting with the STEP process Matt shared. (*It might be helpful to do this in groups of 3-4*).

Sermon Review: S.T.E.P.

SPIRIT: the Spirit is present with me in this situation

TRUST: I am trusting this specific promise from God's Word

EMPOWER: I will act according to this promise; obey this promise in faith

PRAISE/PARDON: I will praise God for what comes and ask for His pardon for my sins

Prayer Time: Consider one of the following

1) Pray for each other based on the situations shared above

2) In the sermon, Matt shared his prayer that we as Christ-followers would come to weekly worship with a desire to meet with God (vs. hear a sermon, sing a song, etc).

- Spend time in prayer asking God to give us a stronger desire for Him.
- Repent of how you have approached weekly worship or Bible reading or prayer (as something other than a path to sense God more)

ALSO, Please join us in prayer as a church for these things:

- For us to pursue the Holy Spirit and desire more of God, removing any obstacles.
- For families to prioritize Jesus as we go back to school.
- For us to prioritize evangelism, and sharing the love of Jesus with others.