

Aftermath

Learning to Walk by the Spirit (February 14th, 2021)

PREPARATION

- Familiarize yourself with this Study Guide.
- You can watch the sermon online [HERE](#). **Then make sure to watch our [Special Series Video](#)!**
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- You **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or prepare your own questions.
- Review the learning objective to focus the conversation, read the primary scriptures as a group, summarize the main points, ask the questions, and use supporting texts to enhance the concepts.

DISCUSSION

Opening Prayer: (1-2 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's a suggestion of how your group can invite God into your time together.

Thank the Father for loving us so much that He came to us in the person of Jesus to offer Himself as a sacrifice on our behalf while we were still sinners! Pray that as we navigate the chaotic waters of our cultural moment that we would humbly listen and obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit as we seek to love one another just as Jesus loved us by dying for us on the cross. Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to remind us of the victory we have over sin in Jesus Christ! Finally, pray that as we look toward the horizon of a New Year that the Holy Spirit would search our hearts and continue to transform us into the likeness of His son!

Discussion: (45-60 minutes)

What's Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Danny brought us into the sixth and final week of our series titled *Aftermath*. Pastor Danny focused our attention to *Galatians 5:16-25* in order to meditate on what it means to keep in step with the Spirit. Pastor Danny uses this passage to point out the power that the Spirit brings, the temptation of the human Flesh that is in all of us, and the Law that keeps us from evil and shows us how to please God but is not sufficient in itself to overcome sin. At the end of this series, Pastor Danny challenges us to simply lean into Jesus and let the Spirit of God do His work in you!

“If you truly want to see transformation in your life, you need more than a *plan*. You need *power*. The Spirit of God does not merely give you a plan for transformation. He also gives you the power for transformation.” – Pastor Danny Strange

Suggested Questions

Check-In: Icebreaker – What has been the most challenging week of this series for you?

****NEW** Series Video:** Each week, a collection of ministry leaders will be recording a video that discusses this week's sermon and how it may apply to our lives according to each demographic represented here at 3Crosses church! We recommend that you either encourage your group to watch the video *before* the meeting, or the video can make for a great opening activity for your group!



Objective #1: Identify the struggle between the flesh and the Spirit.

Primary Texts: Galatians 5:13-25; Romans 7:8 – 8:17 – Pastor Danny's sermon challenges us to avoid doing what our flesh desires and listen to how the Spirit of God is directing you! Even though this may sound easy, we often struggle in this tension until we realize that the Spirit of God does not merely give us a plan for transformation to follow (like the law does) but provides the *power* for transformation. **Can you point to a time in your life where you felt like you were truly walking in step in the Spirit? Describe this season of life to your group. What changed about the dynamic between God's Spirit and your flesh in that moment?**

Objective #2: Share how you keep in step with the Spirit through prayer.

Selected Passages and Themes: 1 Thessalonians 5:17; John 15:1-17 (Prayer) – In the roundtable discussion video, Pastor Larry spoke about some different aspects of prayer with our round table discussion panel. He states that, "Prayer is the non-negotiable, all-essential priority for every believer and local church for the work of God to be accomplished in our world." **When do you make time to pray? What are some different methods that you use? What is one area of growth that you identified in the round table discussion?**

Objective #3: Pray that your group members would deepen their relationship with the Spirit!

Primary Texts: Romans 8:9-11 – Finally, Pastor Danny concludes this aftermath series with a simple, yet refreshing reminder that we are simply called to lean into Jesus and let the Spirit of God do His work in us! **How is God convicting you to grow in your relationship with the Spirit's voice and lean into Him in 2021?**

Closing Prayer: (5-10 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.

Thank our Heavenly Father for sending His son at the perfect time! Praise the Son for emptying himself by becoming a human so that he might give up his own life so that we could be free from the bondage of our spiritual enemy! Ask that the Holy Spirit would mold our hearts and continue to equip us to live, love, and forgive like Jesus. Finally, pray that we as a church would have the courage and boldness to proclaim the gospel of Jesus as we continue to stay connected to the Holy Spirit and follow His lead in our lives.

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

-Stay up to date with Coronavirus Ministry Opportunities: Help us out by pointing the people in your Community Group to [3Crosses.org/coronavirus](https://3crosses.org/coronavirus). If you or anyone in your group is looking to serve food in our pantry, access spiritual care, or seek financial assistance, you can find all you need at [3Crosses.org/neighborhood](https://3crosses.org/neighborhood)

-Aftermath Series: Each week, we will be recording a message that includes a collection of our ministry leaders and helps explain this week's study guide! *Tune in at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday Nights* each week for the premier of the video or check it out anytime on our [YouTube channel](#)!

-Group Prayer: This week, pray that the Spirit would interact clearly with your group members! Challenge one or two members of your group by contacting them throughout the day reminding them that the Spirit of God is dwelling in them and is waiting on us to interact with Him and lean into Him!

-Further Reading: *John 1-2* In the coming weeks, we will be taking a deeper look at what it means to see Jesus, the light amidst the darkness. As you navigate John, pay attention to all of the times vision and sight are referenced and what that means for you in this season of life!

-Community Groups 2021: For more information about joining a group, leading a group, or general inquiries, contact AJ at avanegas@3crosses.org