

Doing Life Together

1. What would be different in your life if you were more aware (and maybe obedient) to the Spirit's presence in your life?

2. What are some ways in which you can nurture your awareness of the Spirit's presence and work in your life?

Leader: Some people may think the Holy Spirit just hangs around now and then to nudge them when they are witnessing. Perhaps it is time to listen to the Spirit more and apply what the Spirit wants us to do. In our personal time in the bible, the Spirit can give us much insight if we let him.

Prayer Requests



Ernest & Effie Dyck – Reach Global – Venezuela



Pray for:

- VBS team preparing new materials to be ready for March
- Ernest as he has many coaching / training / equipping sessions scheduled with individuals
- Feb 11th - team has a full day seminar for fathers and their youth
- Provision and protection



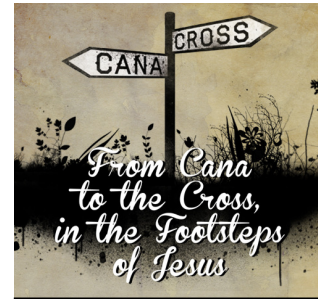
Service Opportunities

Kitchen - keeping tablecloths clean and white

We are looking for someone to take over the tablecloth ministry. If interested, speak to Lenore or call office (938-3311).

Barista's Wanted

The OEFC Coffee Bar is looking for barista's for all services. One hour of training provided on one of following days – Feb 18th (10a), Mar 4th (5p), or Mar 20th (6:45p). For more info email coffeebar@okotoksefc.ca



February 5, 2012

Sermon Notes

Mark 3:20-35

No other Way! No other Person!

Two attitudes toward Jesus

1. Two groups of people question Jesus' Plan and Authority

v.20-22

2. Jesus questions their Relationship with God and Him

v.23-35

Lesson ... There is no other Person

Lesson ... There is no other Way

Relationship with God can only be attained through God's Plan and God's Person

What do I need to do with what I have heard today?

Home Bible Fellowship Study Questions

Thinking Things Through

1. Do you have any questions from Sunday's sermon? What were they?

2. Are there times when you are uneasy with the idea that there is 'No other Way' to a relationship with God and 'No other Person' who can restore the relationship except Jesus? Why do you feel this way (or why not)?

Digging Deeper

1. Read Romans 8:1-4. What are the two kinds of law spoken of in this passage and What impact does Christ have when it comes to our relationship to these two laws?

Leader: There is the law of the Spirit and the law of sin and death. And, it is through Jesus Christ the law of the Spirit sets us free. We will be without condemnation. If we are in Christ, his work (his obedience) ensures we meet the righteous requirement of the law (that is the penalty for our sin is death which Jesus paid by his death-- salvation).

What did Jesus do to make it possible for the 'righteous requirements of the law' to be 'fully met in us' (v.4)?

Leader: This statement is made within the teaching context of Romans. Have them look back at chapters 3:21-24 and 5:6-8 – all have sinned and fall short of God's glory (plan or design for us) and Jesus died 'for' us (in our places).

2. Read Romans 8:5-8. In one column, make a list of the attributes of someone living in the flesh and, in the other column, those of someone living in the spirit. How would you prefer to live and why? What are the 'benefits' or results?

Leader: If we live by the flesh we have fleshly desires, **a mind governed by the flesh that is hostile to God** (v.7). We will not or cannot submit to God's law and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. If we live by the Spirit, we have our minds set on what the Spirit desires, and the **mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace** (v.6).

3. Read Romans 8:9-11. Can you be a follower of Christ and not have the Spirit living in you? Why or why not?

Leader: Living by the Spirit is part and parcel of our belonging to Christ and our direction and decisions are led by the spirit. Numerous misconceptions exist over this. It is clear in vs. 9a that the Spirit is in those who belong to Christ.

What does he mean by v.10? Don't forget to use the context (v.11) in determining your answer.

Leader: Though we are prone to sin and death in our sinful nature (bodies), the Spirit empowers us to live. And, if the Spirit lives in us, then our ability to live righteously is made possible through him – he makes our bodies live as well as our spirits.

4. Read Romans 8:12-13. Discuss your tendency to be obligated to the flesh in spite of the death and ruin it will bring. How can we put an end to living in the flesh?

Leader: We all battle with the flesh. What many do not do very well is battle the flesh with the help of the Holy Spirit. One can never truly put an end to living in the flesh until we die and are made perfect through Christ, we will always have that struggle, but through the Holy Spirit we can make headway toward righteous living (living God's way rather than our own).

5. Read Romans 8:14-17. What does he mean when he says that the Spirit we receive does not make us a 'slave again to fear'?

Leader: Living under the 'law of death' is filled with fear, especially in the animistic and polytheistic world (common in that day and today). The gods were pacified by sacrifice and ritual. Their presence was feared. The Spirit of God links us to a loving Father and family. The law reflects 'slavery and fear', the Spirit 'belonging and value' (self worth, worthy, significance).

What were some of your first thoughts when you considered surrendering your life completely to God and living by the Spirit's guidance and power?

Leader: Likely, it was a fear of losing freedoms, pleasures, perhaps a lifestyle we liked. Some of the group may have victories to share or comparisons to make that prove that the fears were not warranted. God loves us deeply and leads us to fulfillment and peace.