

# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

“The Invisible Man” – The Invisible Man Separates

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## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – “THE INVISIBLE MAN”

### *Getting Started*

If you were able to attend any of the Rock services this past Sunday, you may have heard Pastor Miles speak about the role of the Holy Spirit, and how He often is called to cause separation between us from ourselves, from the world, and from death by separating us onto Himself. Describe a time in your life when you may have felt called to separate yourself from something that you felt might be unwise, dangerous, or contrary to what God has planned for you. Why was it easy or difficult? If anything, what did you learn from that experience?

### *Digging Deeper:*

- 1.) Read Romans 8:1-17. Your small group may want to read it out-loud together and then take some time to read it individually in silence. You’ll notice there is a separation between those who live in their sinful nature and those who live in the Spirit. According to the Scripture, what are the major distinctions?

Life Under the Sinful Nature

Life Under the Spirit

- 2.) Focus on Romans 8:5-8. Give examples of things the “sinful nature” desires. What are examples of things the Spirit desires? How do we see this distinction in today’s society? In media? On television? In the church?
- 3.) The above verses talk about how the sinful mind/nature is hostile God, and if one is CONTROLLED by the sinful nature, it is impossible them to PLEASE God. When was a time you may have been CONTROLLED by your sinful nature? Or when was a time you felt “hostile” towards God?
- 4.) Read Romans 8:9-13. Count the number of times the word “if” appears in the verses. When you belong to Christ, the big “IF” is basically up to you and i... we are able to choose whether or not we are going to live under the Spirit or under our sinful nature because we are no longer CONTROLLED by the latter. Even though we know some of our decisions may lead to harm or regret, why do you think we still make unwise decisions?

- 5.) Some of the most encouraging verses are found in Romans is Romans 8:14-17. Why do you think so many people find these verses so encouraging?
- 6.) During biblical times, Jewish people addressed God with extreme reverence and fear. Many people even refused to say His name (Yahweh). So when they heard Jesus address God as “Father” and “Abba” (which means “Daddy), people were often shocked and even enraged. Jesus paints a picture of GOD in a very intimate light. How do you usually engage with God? With fear and trembling, or with intimacy akin to a father and son/daughter?

### ***Bringing it Home***

Christian or not Christian, we all are sinners and have our own particular struggles. But the major difference between Christians and non-Christians is that we have freedom in the Spirit to not be controlled by our sinful nature... But many of us are capable of falling into the same, old bad habits. If possible, pass out small pieces of paper or index cards. Take some time in silence to write down something you really struggle experience freedom in. Perhaps it's a secret sin. Perhaps it's controlling what you say. Maybe it has to do with finances. Be as transparent as possible. If you're comfortable, put them all in a bowl, mix them around, and take turns taking a card that's not yours. If you're not comfortable, keep your own card and commit it to prayer for the week.