

The Gathering Community Group Guide

The Helper // Part 3 // It's an inside job

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2 Corinthians 3:17-18 and others

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE BETTER WHEN MEMBERS COME PREPARED. TAKE TIME BEFORE GROUP TO GO OVER THIS GUIDE.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

We know from the previous weeks that the Holy Spirit is called the Helper because we need help. We also know that until we really know WHO he is, we won't trust the help he gives. Now that we know that he is God, he is a person and not a force, and he's a friend who is for us, we can begin to turn our thoughts toward what the Helper does. This week, Paul taught us that most of the Helper's work is done on the inside of us, and that he does 4 things specifically:

1. **The Helper teaches us:** We need teachers because we need to learn, and the Holy Spirit teaches us about God and he does it through God's word. I can't speak for you, but those are 2 subjects that I need to learn more about, and I am so thankful for the Helper's help in this!
2. **The Helper reminds us:** Can you imagine how much better our grades would have been in school if the teacher had sat beside us during tests and whispered reminders to us about what we were being asked? Our GPAs would have been through the roof!! Only, of course, if we had actually studied before hand. We can't separate the word of God from the Spirit of God, because that's what the Helper reminds us of.
3. **The Helper transforms us:** One of the greatest tragedies in the American church is people who claim to have the power of the Helper but never live any differently than they did without his power. The Helper's sole goal is to transform us into the image of Jesus so that we will look like Jesus when we tell the world about Jesus. He removes barriers that are between us and those around us. He transforms us on the inside because he wants to do one more thing.
4. **He leads us.** The Holy Spirit wants to lead us to the truth and the future. He isn't pushing us from behind. He's leading us from within as transformed transformers!

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What, if any, is your takeaway from this week's message?
- Describe some of the best and worst teachers you've had in school? What made the best ones great and the worst ones bad? How does this relate to the Helper as our teacher?
- On a scale of 1-10, how forgetful are you (1 is "I can't even remember the question" and 10 is "I even remember what others forget")? How important is it that the Helper not only teaches us, but reminds us, too? What is he reminding you about in your life currently?
- Read Romans 12:2 and Galatians 5:16-17. Talk through the process of transformation. Is it hard or easy? Short or long? More internal or external? What can happen if we take shortcuts in this area of our lives in a rush to "go public?"
- Where is the Helper leading you? What does he need to do in you first in order to prepare you for where he's leading you?
- If you haven't already done so, sign up for the daily devotions during the series by sending the keyword **thehelper** to **72717**. You'll need to catch up, but they're short and worth it!