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Week 3 / You Are God's Temple / 1 Cor. 3:16-17

ICEBREAKER

What's the most memorable building, stadium, or landmark you've ever visited? What made it stand out?

OR

When have you felt especially aware of God's presence in an ordinary place?

SUPPLEMENTAL VIDEO

Scan the QR code found on the right side of the back of your Host Resources Card in your small group kit. Watch or listen to the video as a group, prior to starting the rest of your discussion.

INTRODUCTION

What if I told you the most sacred space on earth is not a cathedral, a cemetery, or a sunrise over the ocean—but you? Paul reminds us that God has chosen to dwell in His people by His Spirit, making us His holy temple. That truth is both comforting and sobering: comforting because we are never alone, sobering because God calls us to live in holiness and build wisely for eternity.

What stood out to you from this week's message?

INTO THE WORD

Read 1 Corinthians 3:16–17; John 14:16–17; Romans 8:9–11.

What does it mean for the Holy Spirit to “dwell” in us rather than just “visit”? What are the practical implications of this? How does this change the way we think about our daily lives—at home, at school, or at work?

Host Guidance: God has not just visited His people; He has moved in. His Spirit dwells in us permanently, giving life, comfort, and power for daily living. Encourage your group to think about “Holy Spirit-awareness”—how being aware of His presence shapes decisions, conversations, and habits. Encourage group members to share a time they felt guided, directed or comforted by the Holy Spirit.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:16–17 (again); 2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:19–22.

Paul speaks in the plural (“you all are God’s temple”). How does this shape the way we think about the church community? What does it look like to treat one another as God’s holy temple?

Host Guidance: God’s presence dwells not just in individuals but in the gathered church. How we treat one another—through unity, purity, and love—reflects the holiness of God’s house. Divisions, gossip, or impurity dishonor God’s temple. Emphasize the importance of protecting the holiness and unity of the church family. Take time to list practical ways to live this out within your group and our church family.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10–15; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:12.

Paul warns that God will inspect what we “build” with our lives. What are some things we can build that last into eternity? What are some things we’re tempted to build that will not last? How can we help each other build with humility, faith, and love?

Host Guidance: Paul pictures God as both the inspector and the rewarder. Our works will be tested—what’s built on Christ lasts, what isn’t will be burned away. Remind the group that this isn’t about fear but about faithfulness—living with eternity in mind. When we have an eternal perspective and focus on our present and future hope in Christ, we have a filter to help us live rightly.

EMBRACE AND EMBODY

(Essentials: Seek God Daily and Build Deep Relationships)

This week, remember that God's presence is not far away—He dwells in you. You are His temple, both individually and together as the church. Seeking God daily means cultivating Holy Spirit-awareness in ordinary life. Building deep relationships means honoring one another as God's holy dwelling. Commit as a group to begin each day this week by praying: "Holy Spirit, help me to live today as Your temple. Make me aware of Your presence and help me build my life with what lasts."

Reflect as a group:

- Where in your life do you need to be more aware of the Holy Spirit's presence?
- How might your relationships in the church look different if you saw others as God's temple?
- What's one way you can build wisely for eternity this week?

GROUP PRAYER PRACTICE: SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

- Begin with silence, inviting the Holy Spirit to remind the group of His presence.
- Slowly read 1 Corinthians 3:16–17 aloud two times.
- Pause and ask: "Holy Spirit, what word, phrase, or truth do You want me to carry into my week?"
- Allow space for silence, then invite those who want to share.
- Close by thanking God for dwelling in His people. Ask the Holy Spirit to make you tangibly aware of His presence throughout your week.

CLOSING PRAYER

Holy Spirit, thank You that we are Your temple, both individually and together as Your people. Thank You for making Your home in us, for Your nearness and power. Help us to live in a manner pleasing to You, to guard the holiness of our lives and our church family, and to build with what will last for eternity. May our lives reflect the hope of Jesus in all that we do. In His name, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- At the end of your meeting, give every group member a Spiritual Gifts Assessment Card and ask group members to complete their assessment prior to your next meeting. They can access the assessment by scanning the QR code on the card, then logging in to their Fairhaven account. The Spiritual Gift Assessment is designed to help those who have embraced the hope of Jesus explore their spiritual giftings. If you have group members that have questions or aren't sure if they have taken this step, it's a great opportunity to have an individual conversation with them.
- Don't forget to post a weekly photo of your group in your campus Facebook group for a chance to win a pizza party.