

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Have We Changed or has God Changed?

When you read the Bible and listen to the great stories of faith, do you ever wonder why we don't see God's Spirit at work in our churches the way He is at work in scripture? When is the last time you saw something happen that was unquestionably the work of the Holy Spirit? When did you last do something out of a specific response to the prompting of God's Spirit in your life?

The Holy Spirit is the most mysterious Person of the Trinity. As a result, many different conclusions have been made when it comes to the Spirit. Some churches have mistakenly

overemphasized the Spirit, while others have ignored Him completely.

One thing, however, is certain. Unlike many

people in the Bible and in the early church, we are often not experiencing the amazing power and direction of the Holy Spirit. This leads us to accept one of two conclusions:

1. The way God works has changed.

2. The way we live out our faith has changed.

If we are honest, most of us are comfortable with a faith that involves attending a weekly service and maybe a few programs, yet allows us to live 95% of our lives like the rest of the world. It is a faith that stamps our ticket to heaven and gives us a warm feeling, but does not require radical

life change, nor a dependence on the work of the Holy Spirit.

As a result, our lives end up looking no different than the lives of those who do not follow Jesus. If we are followers of Christ, should-
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**“THE TABLE” IS
SEPT. 24TH @
7:00 P.M.**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

**SEE THE ARTICLE
BELOW FOR
DETAILS**



Community Group FAQ's

How can I join a group?

This year “The Table” event will not be the primary place for people to sign up for a Community Group. Instead, sign-ups will take place after the service on **September 5th, 12th & 19th.**

Can I Be in the same group as last year?

New groups agree to meet for one year with an option for a second year. If your group has

been meeting for two years, it is encouraged that you consider joining a group with some new faces.

Why change? Changing groups every so often helps to encourage growth and allows for new people at Mount Hope to find a place to feel at home.

What is “The Table?”

The Table, which will take place on **Friday,**

September 24th serves as the first meeting for Community Groups. We will begin the Fall curriculum there.

How can I start a group?

If you believe that the Lord is calling you to begin a group, you may pick up a Leaders Application at the Community Groups display in the church or contact Pastor Brian:

(781) 272-1014 x.110
bkrogh@mounthope.org

LEADERS CORNER

OUR CURRICULUM THIS FALL IS “FORGOTTEN GOD” WITH FRANCIS CHAN. THIS SERIES TEACHES ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND REMINDS US OF THE REALITY THAT THE SPIRIT OF THE GOD OF THE UNIVERSE LIVES INSIDE OF US READY TO CHANGE US.



CLICK THE PICTURE FOR A PREVIEW OF THIS GREAT SERIES.

Questions / Comments
Please contact Pastor Brian

You can call at 781-272-1014 x.
110 or click the email address
below to send an email.
E-mail: bkrogh@mounthope.org

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“It really is an astounding truth that the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you. He lives in me . . . But I am tired of living in a way that looks exactly like people who do not have the Holy Spirit of God living in them. . . I want to be different today from what I was yesterday.”



Francis Chan in *Forgotten God*.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit ForgottenGod.com to learn more about Francis Chan and the book we will be studying.

Have We Changed or has God Changed?

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n't our lives be different than the lives of our neighbors and co-workers? If we believe that the Spirit of God, the Spirit of the one who created this world and rescued it from sin dwells within us, shouldn't people be able to look us and notice something supernaturally different in our lives?

God has not changed. He continues to work in our world and in the lives of individuals seeking after Him. It is we who have changed. We who have allowed ourselves to chose a comfortable, safe faith over the supernatural work of the Spirit in our lives.

When Paul writes about the Spirit in Galatians he instructs the people, "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5.25). In this same passage Paul empasizes that a life lived in the Spirit will look very different than a life lived apart from the Spirit.

This Fall, the series we will be

studying in our groups, *Forgotten God* by Francis Chan, will challenge us to ask some difficult questions regarding our individual interpretation of the Holy Spirit and challenge us to live a life that is led by the Spirit.

Each of us will be prompted to ask difficult questions. Do I really believe the Holy Spirit can lead me better than I can lead myself? If so, how can I live in a way that promotes, rather than hinders, the work of God's Spirit in my life?

Before Jesus left this earth he told his disciples that the Holy Spirit would be with them. Jesus said to them, "all this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John. 14.15-26).

Do you remember when the

Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost in Acts chapter 2? When He came it was with power. There was no question that God's Spirit had arrived.



If we are followers of Christ then that same Spirit dwells within us. He is still speaking, and still working, but most of us are too busy to pay attention.

We have not experienced the grace of God so that we can survive earth until we get to heaven. There is work to be done here. God desires to do great things in and through us. If it is to happen, however, we must learn what it means to walk in step with the Holy Spirit.

I hope you will join us in our groups as we remember the Holy Spirit. May we see the Lord do great things among us as we learn to submit ourselves fully to Him.