

STUDY GUIDE

Introduction

This week we talked about seeing the world through different lenses—what lens do you think you *naturally* use most: optimism, pessimism, cynicism, hopefulness, etc.? Have you ever had a moment where you realized your default lens led you to misunderstand something —maybe something that seemed bad at first but turned out good (or vice versa)?

TEXT: Romans 8:9-11

In the sermon, we explored how the "lens of sin and death" can lead to compassion fatigue, cynicism, tribalism, and despair. Which of those do you find creeping into your heart or mind? What experiences of "death" in the world most consistently leads to this for you?

On the flip side, what happens when we view the world through "the Spirit who gives life because of righteousness"? How does that change how we interpret the news, engage in hard conversations, or respond to suffering?

The Spirit is described in many ways—filling us, interceding for us, bringing joy, peace, and hope. Which description of the Spirit feels most relevant to your current life or prayer journey?

The sermon defined righteousness as "God's commitment to make all things right." How does that understanding of righteousness shape your view of prayer and your role in the world?

YOUR MOVE

The sermon closed with a call to develop "Holy Spirit Curiosity"—to ask questions, seek understanding, and stay open to what God might be doing. Where in your life do you need to take on that kind of curiosity?

Are you praying like someone who believes the Spirit gives life? What would it look like to shift how you pray this week?

What's one specific area where you want to intentionally "put on the lens of the Spirit" this week—at work, in your family, in how you engage the news, or how you respond to a challenge?