



The New Normal is about the **New Life** that God has always had for us.

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

- We can't experience the new life while we are **holding** on to the old life. You were told that your foolish desires will destroy you and that **you must give up your old way of life** with all its bad habits. Let the Spirit change your way of thinking and make you into a new person. You were created to be like God... Ephesians 4:22-24 (CEV)
- Our old behaviors can't lead us to **New Life**.
- The new life that God has for us is a **Spirit** generated life.
- God's Spirit is the **source** of life we need.

5 ..."I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. 6 **Humans can reproduce only human life**, but the **Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life**. John 3:5-6 (NLT)

63 **The Spirit alone gives eternal life**. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. John 6:63 (NLT)

16 Don't you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16 (GWT)

- God's plan **for** your life requires His presence and power **in** your life.
- God's Spirit is the **companion** in life we need. 16 I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. John 14:16 (MSG)

The Spirit is our source of strength:

- Strength to **do** what God asks of us. John 15:5 (NIV) ..."I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)
- Strength to **influence** the world around me. Acts 1:8 (NIV)
- Strength to **resist** temptation. 1 Corinthians 10:13 (GWT)
- Strength to **endure** trials. Psalm 118:13-14 (CEV)

- Strength to **trust** God in uncertain times. I'll take the hand of those who don't know the way, who can't see where they're going. I'll be a personal guide to them, directing them through unknown country. I'll be right there to show them what roads to take, make sure they don't fall into the ditch. These are the things I'll be doing for them— sticking with them, not leaving them for a minute." Isaiah 42:16 (MSG)

25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:25 (NLT)

- We can't get to God's **destination** if He's not **leading**. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. Romans 8:14 (NLT)

Following the Spirit's leading means:

- We're **listening** to what the Spirit's saying. 6 Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Proverbs 3:6 (MSG)
- We're looking to **God's Word**. 133 Guide my steps by your word, so I will not be overcome by evil. Psalm 119:133 (NLT)
- We're **thinking** about things that **please** God.

What consumes your **mind**, controls your **life**.

- 5 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. Romans 8:5 (NLT)
- We're **living** to **please** the Spirit. 8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. Galatians 6:8 (NLT)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- Was there a scripture and/or point that spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- In your own words, what does this New Normal look like that God is calling us to?
- Why do we need a Spirit generated life? What is the difference between a self generated life and Spirit generated life?
- Why does God's new normal require God's presence and power in our lives? What does that mean?
- How does God's Spirit provide the strength we need during difficulties? (Discuss the 5 ways the Spirit is our source of strength)
- Why is following the Spirit's leading essential for our lives? What is the difference the Spirit makes in our lives?
- How does God's voice bring comfort to our lives in difficult times?
- How does God's Word give us guidance and strength we need?
- Do you think of ways to please God?
- What are some ways we live to please God's Spirit?

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