

## "The Indwelling Gift"

### Selected Scriptures

December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

#### Introduction:

1. Do you yearn to spend Christmas with family? Have you ever thought that you were created to dwell with God? How did we get so far away from God? How can we be reconciled?

#### Quick Review:

We were created to dwell with God. However, due to Adam's sin, we deserve death, eternal wrath in Hell, and separation from the goodness of God. However, in Genesis 3:15, God reveals that he has a plan to end sin and the penalty it gives. God desires to dwell with his people through the tabernacle and the temple, but the curtain is a visual reminder that God and man are separate. Man needs to be remade and rescued from his sin. The Snake Crusher that was promised in Genesis 3:15 is prophesied to finally come and rescue his people - his name is Immanuel. Through one woman (Eve), death was born, and through one virgin woman (Mary), new life is given. Though Immanuel is with us, man still cannot fully dwell with God. Jesus needs to die, his flesh and curtain need to be torn, and the Spirit given so that man and God can finally dwell together again. Is getting to dwell with God your ultimate present?

#### **Read Ephesians 2.11-22**

God and man dwelling together is God's gift to you...

### Digging Deeper:

1. What are some things in this life that we yearn for? How can these things rival your allegiance to Christ?
2. How do we at times downplay either God's holiness or our sin? When you sin, do you consider that you are offending a holy God? (Why or why not?) Do you consider what each sin deserves? (Why or why not?)
3. What are the punishments for sin? What is God's plan to reconcile us back to God?
4. The gospel is the thing that saves you, but also the thing that sustains you. Why is the gospel important for your everyday living as a believer?
5. Is getting to dwell with Christ your ultimate desire? (Why or why not?) How can you rely on grace today so that this reality becomes front and center in your life?