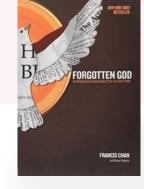


PARTICIPANT GUIDE

FORGOTTEN GOD By Francis Chan



"From my perspective, the Holy Spirit is tragically neglected and, for all practical purposes, forgotten."

FRANCIS CHAN

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Q. Do you agree with Francis that the Holy Spirit is the Forgotten God? Why is the presence of the Holy Spirit essential to us as individuals, but also corporately in our churches?

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Q. Jesus says to his disciples, "It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you" John 16:7. Would you have preferred the presence of Jesus in the flesh over the presence of the Holy Spirit before reading this book? How have your views changed?

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 ${\tt Q}.$ Can you think of a person in your life who displays the fruit of the Spirit profoundly? How does this person encourage you?



Q. Francis says, "Receiving freedom and healing in answer to prayer is generally not something that is done to you, a situation in which you are just a passive participant. Occasionally God works this way and simply heals or frees a person outright... But in my experience, He typically asks us to play an active role in the journey towards wholeness" (p129).

Is there an area in your life where you require healing or the to Spirit to intervene and break the cycle of sin? If you are comfortable, share with the group.



Q. When you are studying the Bible, do you tend to take the *Exegesis* or *Eisegesis* approach? What are the dangers of using the wrong approach?

Q. There has been much theological and experiential debate about the Holy Spirit, and how He comes to dwell in us. Francis reminds us that despite what we may believe about this, the Bible tells us to repent, be baptised and receive the Spirit. (p69). Can you share a time in your life when you have had a powerful encounter with the Holy Spirit? It may be the first time you received Him and felt his presence, or perhaps it was during the mundane activities of everyday life as He provided you with His guiding counsel and comfort.



 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}$. What was your response to Francis's question, "Why do you want to stay on this Earth?" (p84).

Q. Do you agree with Francis that "greater knowledge does not necessarily equal greater spirituality"? (p157)

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Q. "Do you believe you exist not for your own pleasure but to help people know the love of Jesus and to come fully alive in Him? If so, then that will shape how you live your life in the place where you are" (p92). What specific activities, ministries, or good works does the Spirit have you doing right now, specific to location and those around you?

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Q. In 'The Final Biography', Francis asks us to consider the following questions; "What if this last biography were about your life? What would be written here? Would we read stories about the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit or stories about what you have accomplished on your own?" (p159). Have you decided to be led by the Spirit?



NOTES

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