



SESSION THREE:



Out from Behind the Curtain

STUDENT HANDOUT

Key Verses

At that moment the curtain of the temple
was torn in two from top to bottom.

Matthew 27:51a

The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living. Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

Romans 13:12-14 NLT

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ROBE:

Jesus gives us the gift of his seamless robe, which represented his perfect character. This picture of clothing is used in the Bible to signify our character too.

1. According to Romans 13:12-14, what types of dark deeds are we supposed to remove like dirty clothing?
2. What clothing are we supposed to put on? How do we do that in practical terms?
3. What is the meaning of the phrase “we belong to the day”? According to this passage, how is this supposed to affect how we live?
4. What areas of life cause you the most struggles? How can you “clothe yourself with Christ” in those areas?

IDEA: Use your daily routine of getting dressed as a prompt to “clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 13:14 NLT). As you dress every day, allow each piece of clothing to remind you that you are dressed in his strong love and have constant access to God’s presence and help.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CURTAIN:

At the moment Jesus died, the curtain in front of the Holy of Holies was torn, destroying the room where God had confined his presence. Now everyone has full access to God anywhere, anytime. God came out from behind the curtain. But sometimes we still live as if God is confined to one area of our lives, and we don't let him into the other areas; that is called compartmentalization.

1. Which of these statements represents a compartmentalization you are most likely to make? Share the reasons for your response.

- ☐ God is in holy places but not here with me.
- ☐ God was at work at that time but not in my time.
- ☐ God is involved in big things but not my personal things.
- ☐ God is seen in spiritual matters but not in my daily matters.

2. When we compartmentalize, we are putting the curtain back up as a way of shielding an area of our lives from God's probing eyes. Which of the following statements comes closest to describing what you tend to shield yourself from when guilt comes between you and God? Share the reasons for your response.

When I put up guilt as a curtain . . .

- ☐ I am shielding myself from my fear of God's anger or disapproval.
- ☐ I am shielding myself from facing God until I can get my act together.
- ☐ I am shielding myself from my own shame.
- ☐ I am shielding myself from confessing my failure.
- ☐ I am shielding myself from making things right with someone I have hurt.
- ☐ I am shielding myself from changing my behavior.
- ☐ Other: _____

EASTER/LENT FOCUS:

We are challenging all our students to join with the rest of the church and read *He Chose You* in the weeks leading up to Easter. This week's readings will help us understand God's acceptance. Please read chapters 7–9 in *He Chose You*.