

Session 6

Read: Chapters 23-27

Opening

Who has the person of the Holy Spirit been to you throughout your life?

View

Consider the following questions as you watch session 2.

What is the connection between the new covenant and the Holy Spirit?

What does holiness look like for a new covenant believer?

What does it mean to be a minister of the new covenant?

Reflect

Spend some time reflecting on the series of questions Sonya asks at the at the close of the video.

Do you believe and receive Jesus' offer of a new covenant?

Have you embraced this new covenant life through the power of the Holy Spirit?

Will you be a minister of this new covenant... one who takes the life of the Spirit everywhere you go, changing the world with His great love?

Study

Use the following questions for individual study or group discussion. Refer to the Bible passages listed, as well as *The Covenant Story* chapters, as you dig deeper.

Chapter 23

Filled: Covenant Life

John 6:25-59

Why did Jesus tell his followers to eat his flesh and drink his blood? What did they think of his teaching?

What difference does it make to see Jesus' words through the lens of the "covenant story"?

Personal: How might understanding covenant impact your experience of receiving communion?

Chapter 24

Go: Mystery of the Covenant

Ephesians 3

How did his encounter with Jesus change Paul's life? (Think of all the ways it would have changed!)

What was "the mystery of the covenant" and why does it matter?

What does it mean that God's people are the temple?

How is baptism symbolic of "new covenant life"?

Personal: What does the "mystery" of inclusion mean for us today as followers of Jesus?

Chapter 25

New: Covenant Relearned

Hebrews 8

What are the differences between the old "law" covenant, and the new covenant of the Spirit?

Which do you think is easier to follow—the written law, or the person of the Spirit?

Why was this shift (from law to Spirit) so confusing—and why is still confusing for Christians today?

Personal: How do you understand your own role as a "minister" of the new covenant?

Chapter 26

Miracle: Covenant Promise

Galatians 4:21-24a, 5:13-18

How would you describe the main differences between the old covenant and the new?

How does the illustration of Ishmael and Isaac help you to understand the difference between the covenants?

How does Paul describe the battle between the flesh and the Spirit?

Personal: Can you relate to living like an “old covenant Christian”? Why or why not?

Chapter 27

Forever: Covenant of Love

Revelation 19:6-9 & 22:1-5

How is the image of a bride and a wedding tied to covenant?

What parallels do you see between Eden and the new earth?

What does it look like for followers of Jesus today to bring heaven to earth through God's hesed?

Personal: What do you imagine when you try to picture eternity with Jesus?

Wrap Up

Consider the following question as you close your time in prayer.

How has the story of God's covenant love changed you?