



In this series we are looking at the ways in which God forms us into the image of Jesus. In this study we are going to consider the role of the Holy Spirit in this process. While Paul's writing about covenants and veils can be a little confusing, his affirmation of the Holy Spirit's role in verse 17 and 18 is clear and encouraging.

Read 2 Corinthians 3

1. Who has had a great impact on your spiritual development? What were the qualities in his or her life that made such a difference in you?
2. In this passage, Paul talks about covenants and veils. Why did Moses wear a veil? (verse 13 - see **Exodus 34:33-35**). Have you ever worn a "veil"? How does a veil keep us from experiencing the work of the Holy Spirit?
3. Verse 17 says, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom?" Obviously, this does not mean "freedom to sin"? What kind of "freedom" does the Spirit bring about? How have you experienced this in your own life?
4. Notice that the Spirit and "the Lord" (Jesus) are closely linked in this passage. (verses 17-18). **Read John 14:26 and 15:26** to see what Jesus had to say about the role of the Holy Spirit. How does the link between Jesus and the Spirit impact our understanding of what it means to be FORMED by the Spirit?
5. **Read verses 17-18 again.** In the message, Doug noted that "being transformed" is a passive verb. We are not the ones who "transform" ourselves; we are "transformed" by the Holy Spirit. What is our role in this process? What is the Holy Spirit's role?
6. Doug used the term "formation gap" on Sunday. What did he mean by this? How do we become aware of a "formation gap" that may exist in our life? Where is there a formation gap in your own life?
7. Reflect on Paul's phrase in verse 18 – "are being transformed into his image with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." Read in in other translations. How is this verse an encouragement to you?
8. **Read Galatians 5:16-25.** This passage talks about "living" by the Spirit. How does this passage add to or complement your understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in FORMING US?



9. Upon whom are you having a significant impact in their spiritual development? What would you like people to say about you?

10. As you close, take some time to thank the Lord for the work of the Holy Spirit in each of you. Identify the "formation gaps" that exist among you and ask the Holy Spirit to be powerfully at work in each of your lives. Pray that he will continue to change you "from one degree of glory to the next, so that your lives will impact others."