



## THE THIRD GOD

# 6



Your Body Is the  
Temple of God

### YES, NO, & MAYBE

1. Most people obsess about their bodies.
2. I am content with the physical shape of my body.
3. God's presence resides in our church sanctuary more than within my body.
4. There are certain things that I don't eat or drink simply for religious reasons.
5. The Holy Spirit can reside in me even if I eat junk food, unclean meats and alcoholic beverages.

### DIG DEEPER

#### WHAT DID YOU SAY ABOUT MY BODY?

- **READ 1 Corinthians 6:19** (*New Revised Standard Version*).

“<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?”

» When you hear this text, what lessons from the past come to mind? What things do you associate with this passage?

- ∞ Have we historically focused on “your body” or “temple of the Holy Spirit”?
- ∞ This same phrase is used in 1 Corinthians 3:16. Is the context here also about sexual immorality? What is it about?

#### HISTORY OF THE TEMPLE:

- **Around 1446 B.C. - Mt Sinai:** *The portable Tabernacle/Tent of Meeting.* Exodus 40:34-35 (NIV) “Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the Tent of Meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.”

### NOTES

## DIG DEEPER...continued:

### HISTORY OF THE TEMPLE (continued):

- **About 980 B.C.** - Jerusalem: Solomon builds the permanent Temple.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3 (NRSV) “<sup>1</sup>When Solomon had ended his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>The priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord filled the Lord’s house. <sup>3</sup>When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed down on the pavement with their faces to the ground...”

- **About 516 B.C.** - The Temple is rebuilt after it had been destroyed about 70 years earlier. But this time, there is no fire from heaven, no glory of the Lord on the temple.

» The prophets notice this and communicate that when the Messiah comes, **he** would rebuild the temple.

∞ Joel 2:28, 29 (The Day of the Lord) - “<sup>28</sup> And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. <sup>29</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”

- **About 27 A.D.** - In John 2:18-22, Jesus says, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” But when Jesus said “this temple,” he meant his own body.

- **About 30 A.D.** - In Acts 2, fire comes down from heaven, and the glory of God’s presence is shown on the new temples (people), and now the concept of “your body is the temple of God” is launched.

» From a **spiritual** sense, how does it make you feel to be the temple of God?

» From a **physical** sense, how does it make you feel to be the temple of God?

» What is our part in creating a conducive tabernacle for the Holy Spirit?

» Why do you think God chose this new approach to His “temple” instead of His previous model?

» What does this say about the character of God?

### MY PRAYERS:

1. What kind of temple am I?
2. How much room am I allowing the Spirit of God to tabernacle Himself within me?
3. What new thing does God need me to know about His character this week?