

GOOD NEWS!

Truth Has Been Found!
Everywhere we turn, some...

DISCUSSION GOAL



To understand our struggle with the flesh and how to put it to death in Christ in order to walk with the Spirit.

ICE BREAKER



If you could choose only one fruit to eat for the rest of your life, what would it be?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Galatians 5:16-26

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Walk with the Spirit and win against the flesh.

Key Question: How do we walk with the Spirit?

1. By recognizing our inner struggle. (vv. 16-18)
2. By honestly acknowledging the fruit of our life. (vv. 19-23)
3. By putting the flesh to death in Christ. (vv. 24-26)

DISCUSSION



- Paul begins this week's passage in verse 16 by saying if we walk by the Spirit, we won't gratify the desires of the flesh. Discuss the difference between the desires of the Spirit and the desires of the flesh. How do these two desires present themselves in the world? How does the world influence us toward one or the other?
- In verses 16-18, Paul implores us to submit to the Spirit's direction because our willpower alone is not enough to resist the desires of the flesh. Where in your life are you trying to go at it alone to resist your inner struggles? How can you submit to the Spirit's direction and power to help in these struggles?
- Paul lists vices of the flesh and virtues of the Spirit in verses 19-23. How can you acknowledge the vices in your life you struggle with? How can you allow the Spirit to work through those vices to produce its fruit (virtues) in your life? What should the fruit of the Spirit look like in your life?
- In verse 24, Paul claims the passions and desires of our flesh have been crucified with Christ for those who are in Christ. How can you be empowered to put to death the desires of the flesh and walk with the Spirit, knowing the work Christ did on the cross?
- Read Romans 6:17-18. Here, Paul says we were once slaves to sin, but now we have become slaves to righteousness. What does it mean to you to be a slave to righteousness as compared to a slave of sin? What does this look like practically in the way you live your life?

LIFE APPLICATION



In Galatians 5:16-26 Paul encourages us to walk with the Spirit, allowing his power to work in us to put to death the desires of the flesh. One way we can be encouraged to walk in the Spirit is to remain in community with each other. Talk about ways that your Life Group can be a community marked by the fruit of the Spirit in your relationships with each other as well as those outside of your group.

Join your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


