

Freedom To Live For Christ

Galatians 5:16-26

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we will finish Chapter 5 of Galatians. This is a familiar passage for many people: the fruit of the Spirit. We may be able to list all the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. But what does the Bible mean when it says walk according to the Spirit? How is this different than having a law that we must observe? This week we will talk about the battle between the flesh and the Spirit, and how we, who belong to Christ, can walk according to the Spirit.



Read Galatians 5:16-26 (NET)

¹⁶ But I say, live by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh has desires that are opposed to the Spirit, and the Spirit has desires that are opposed to the flesh, for these are in opposition to each other, so that you cannot do what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, depravity, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envying, murder, drunkenness, carousing, and similar things.

I am warning you, as I had warned you before: Those who practice 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, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also behave in accordance with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, being jealous of one another.

EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passages.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?

5. What is emphasized?

6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

🕒 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)

What does God MEAN?

8. How does living by the Spirit keep us from carrying out the desires of the flesh? (v. 16)?

9. Do we currently have both the flesh and the Spirit in us?

10. How is verse 21 different than saying we need to keep the law or we will not inherit the Kingdom?

11. What characterizes the works of the flesh that are listed in verses 19, 20, and 21?

12. What characterizes the fruit of the Spirit in verses 22 and 23?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

13. Verse 25 distinguishes between living by the Spirit and behaving according to the Spirit. What is the difference?

14. How is saying we should walk by the Spirit different than saying we should obey these laws?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

SERMON NOTES