

Galatians 5:16-25 Study

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ GALATIANS 5:16-25

1. What are the two opposing natures living in every Christian? Explain the primary focus for each of these natures.

2. In verse 17, Paul says that the desires of the flesh and the Spirit “are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.” Compare your experience to the struggle Paul reveals in Romans 7:15-24. What is the only way to conquer the flesh?

3. John Stott in The Message of the Galatians (p.146) states, “We do not deny that there is such a thing as moral conflict in non-Christian people, but we assert that it is fiercer in Christians...” Why do non-Christians experience moral conflict? Why would this conflict be fiercer in Christians?

4. Put the works of the flesh into categories. (Personal question: What areas do you identify as particularly troubling in your life?)

5. Give examples of the destructive impact from the works of the flesh on the following:

Individuals

Couples/families

Society (friendships, neighbors, work settings, groups, etc.)

Body of Christ

Relationship with God

6. "When believers exhibit the fruit of the Spirit, they are exhibiting characteristics that are ultimately directed toward God and others" (RC Sproul Essential Truths of the Christian Faith, p. 246). How do you see the fruit of the Spirit positively impacting your relationship with God and others?

Individuals

Couples/families

Society (friendships, neighbors, work settings, groups, etc.)

Body of Christ

Relationship with Go

7. Note how many times the Holy Spirit is mentioned in this passage. Describe how He is presented in the following verses:

Vv.16-17

Vv. 18

Vv. 22-23

8. In verse 25, there is a distinction between "live by the Spirit" and "keep in step with the Spirit." Identify this distinction and what it means in your daily life?