

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Our Main Idea:

In normal religion, the motivation for morality is fear-based. In gospel Christianity, the motivation is a dynamic of love. In this passage, Paul spells out just how we grow in character through this new dynamic. And his headline is: We grow as we battle.

Opening Question

Encourage learners so share something that they don't like to ask for help in doing. (For example, putting together something, shopping, a hobby, planning, etc.) Ask the following questions:

- Why do you now like to have help with these activities?
- What does it say about yourself that you prefer independence in these times?
- Do you think that you could be denying someone else pleasure in serving you by not allowing help?
- Could you do a better job if an expert in that field helped?

Explain that today we'll discuss how living like Christ is impossible without help

Key Questions:

- Describe the conflict believers have with the flesh.
- Compare and contrast Galatians 5:16-26 with Romans 7:13-25.
- What struck you the most in the section on "The Works of the Flesh"?
- What lesson or reminder did you need the most in the section on "The Fruit of the Spirit"?
- What is the "good news" in this passage?
- How might you daily crucify the flesh?
- What means or method does this passage teach for becoming like Christ? In what aspects do we not become like Christ?
- Read John 14:15-16. Why does Jesus indicate that He is sending the Spirit? In relation to keeping the commands of Christ, what is the Spirit's role?
- How does this passage relate to the passages before and after it (5:13-16 and 6:1-10)?
- In what ways are you tempted to disobey verse 26? Stop and pray for the Spirit's work in you to avoid this sin. List ways you might instead love and serve others.
- How might the application of this passage change a couple's marriage?
- **What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?**

Next Steps

What did God say to you today through His Word? And what are you going to do about it! Finish your group time with prayer, asking God for help in living in Freedom

Experience

Your Relationship with God

What does a life transformed by the Spirit look like?

Equip

Your Relationship with Others

How can we seem to demonstrate fruit and our behavior not be of the Spirit? How we treat others demonstrates the fruit in our life.

Engage

Your Relationship with the World

What does it mean for us to live by the Spirit? How do we do that practically day in and day out?