

Read Galatians 5:13-15

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

1. You were called to _____.
2. What is the purpose of freedom? Circle the answer that best reflects the text.

To indulge in sin

To do whatever you desire

To lovingly serve others

3. In the Law, there was said to be 613 commands, yet Paul boils the Law down to one word. What is it?
4. If I simplified and modernized verse 15, I might say this: *If you bite at each other, be careful that you're not eaten by each other!* What are some ways people bite at each other in a religious and legalistic setting?
5. What happens when we bite each other?
6. How might a legalist "keep the law", but not actually get to the heart of the law and love their neighbor? (*hint* bite and devour)

Read Galatians 5:16-17

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.

7. Circle the word "Spirit." Box the word "flesh"
8. Describe the relationship between spirit and flesh.
9. If you walk by the Spirit, you will not _____

Read Galatians 5:19-21

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.

10. The works of the flesh are _____ . Give another word for the term in the blank?

11. Below write all the terms in the list that are external sins (for example: drunkenness requires drinking alcohol in excess)

12. Below write all the terms in the list that are internal sins (for example: enmity is an emotion, hatred toward another)

13. Why is the Law insufficient at changing internal sins?

14. Those who do such things will not _____ .

15. What is the kingdom of God?

Read Galatians 5:11

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control

16. In agriculture, what comes first. The plant or the fruit? What is the fruit?

17. In the same way, what comes first. The Spirit or the Fruit of the Spirit?

**18. Would the following commandments work on their own? Why or why not?
*Thou shalt be more loving. Thou shalt be more joyful. Thou shalt be more peaceful. Thou shalt be more patient.***

Read Galatians 5:22-23 & 5:18

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.

18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19. How do the fruits of the Spirit accomplish the rules of the Law? (Hint cf. 5:14)

20. If one is living under the influence of the Spirit, why is the law unnecessary for obedience?

21. If you belong to Jesus, you have _____ the flesh with its passions and desires.

Read Galatians 5:25-26

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. (ESV)

25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. (NLT)

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also behave in accordance with the Spirit. (NET)

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. (NASB)

26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

22. In your own words, finish verse 25 capturing the idea by the various translations.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also _____

23. Consider the following paraphrase by Eugene Peterson of v.25-26:

Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives. That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original.

24. How does righteous living by the Spirit instead of by the law prevent life-killing comparison?

Group Application:

- 1. What truth resonated most with you as you studied these sections of Galatians?**

- 2. Do internal works of the flesh matter to God? If so, what does this teach us about the motivations of our heart?**

- 3. Why is it easy to demonize drunkenness and immorality, yet excuse fits of anger, rivalries, divisions, and dissensions?**

- 4. How is walking by the Spirit different than the righteousness through the Law and also different than indulging the flesh?**

- 5. What are some of the promises we have because we were baptized by the Spirit into Christ? Describe a promise that means a lot to you, and how it encourages you?**

- 6. Consider a sin or temptation your drawn to. What is the allure of that sin and why is it tempting? How can the truths of being in the Spirit remove the power of that sin?**

For example: I struggle with lusting after a beautiful woman. But underneath that temptation, is my value as a man. If a beautiful woman desired by other men wants me, it makes me feel like a somebody. This false narrative circulates in our world. The truth in the Spirit is I am extremely valuable to God. I am so valuable that He gave the blood of his Son to purchase me (1 Pet 1:19). I am significant, and He will sing over me with His love (Zeph 3:17). He will declare that He is well-pleased with me before all (Matt 25:23). He will not withhold any good thing from me (Rom 8:32). Clearly, this lust is not a life-giving promise for it will still leaving me feel unvaluable. It is an idol producing death.

- 7. Kyle gave several different practical ways to “walk by the Spirit.” Realize the truth, Ruminant on God’s promises, Rely on the promises, Remain in Christ, & Remind yourself. Which one do you resonate with or need growth in? Explain.**

- 8. Share requests and pray for one another! Specifically pray that we would walk by the Spirit and not by the flesh or under the law.**