

Finding Freedom - Week 5

Galatians 5:16-21

Also: Romans 7:5, 8:11-17

Discussion Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. Read the two lists in Galatians 5:16-21
 - Which kind of people are the most fun/easy to be around: those whose lives are characterized by the fruit of the Spirit, or those whose lives are characterized by the works of the flesh? Why?
 - Some have summarized the lists by the terms "others-centered" and "self-centered". Do you think that aptly describes them? Why/why not?
 - Perhaps this would be a good time to pause, pray, and ask Spirit to produce His fruit in you!
3. Point 1 from the sermon: All Christians experience the battle between the flesh and The Spirit.
 - Have you ever gotten the image from someone that following Jesus is easy? Or that Christians have it all together?
 - Have you ever put that pressure on yourself to have it all together?
 - Have you ever portrayed the image of having it all together to others?
 - How do those two attitudes help or hurt the Gospel message?
 - What could we do to be better at acknowledging the battle?
4. Point 2 from the sermon: There are Blessings in the Battle
 - Have you ever experienced blessings in the battle between your flesh and the Spirit?
 - If yes, can you share some, and maybe some of the story behind them?
5. Point 3 from the sermon: We Find Freedom as we Walk in the Spirit.
 - How is the Fruit of the Spirit *different* than a list that has at the top of it, "Do these things so God will love me?"
 - If the discussion so far is just making you feel like you have to try harder, then you are missing a key element of the Good News about Jesus.
 - If so, go back and read/study passages like Ephesians 2:8-10, or Galatians 2:16.

Ask God to help you trust the Good News about Jesus, both for saving us from our sins and for cleaning us up from our sins, the root of which is pride/selfishness!