

# **Bible Study Guide: Crucified the Flesh**

## **Scripture: Galatians 5:24**

*"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires." (ESV)*

### **Theme**

**Believers are called to leave sinful desires behind.**

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### **Study Objective**

To understand that those who belong to Jesus Christ are called to reject the control of their sinful nature and live by the power of the Holy Spirit. Following Christ involves daily choosing obedience over sinful desires and pursuing a life of holiness.

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### **Background**

In Galatians 5, Paul contrasts the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit. After describing the qualities produced by the Holy Spirit, he reminds believers that those who belong to Christ have "crucified the flesh." This means that through faith in Jesus, believers have made a decisive break with

their old way of life. Although the struggle against temptation continues, Christians are no longer slaves to sin but are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live in victory and obedience.

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## **Key Truth**

**Believers belong to Christ and are called to put sinful desires to death by living under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.**

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## **Cross References**

### **Romans 6:6–7**

"Our old self was crucified with him... so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin."

**Truth:** Through Christ, believers are freed from the power of sin.

### **Romans 8:12–13**

By the Spirit, believers are to put to death the sinful deeds of the body.

### **Colossians 3:5**

"Put to death therefore what is earthly in you..."

**Truth:** Christians are called to reject sinful practices.

### **Luke 9:23**

Jesus said that His followers must deny themselves, take up their cross daily, and follow Him.

### **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old has passed away, and the new has come.

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## **Observation Questions**

1. Who does Paul say has crucified the flesh?
2. What has been crucified according to this verse?
3. What are the "passions and desires" Paul refers to?
4. What does it mean to belong to Christ Jesus?

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## **Interpretation**

To "crucify the flesh" means making a decisive commitment to reject the control of the sinful nature. It does not mean that temptation disappears, but that believers no longer allow sinful desires to rule

their lives. Because of Christ's death and resurrection, Christians have been given a new identity and the power of the Holy Spirit to resist sin. This daily process of denying the flesh and following the Spirit reflects a growing commitment to holiness and obedience.

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## **Application**

Ask yourself:

- Are there sinful desires that still influence my life?
- Am I relying on the Holy Spirit to overcome temptation?
- What habits help me grow in holiness?
- How can I daily choose obedience over selfish desires?

Practical applications:

- Begin each day by surrendering your thoughts and actions to God.
- Identify and avoid situations that encourage sinful behavior.
- Fill your mind with Scripture and prayer.
- Seek accountability from trusted Christian friends or mentors.

- Depend on the Holy Spirit for strength to resist temptation and live faithfully.
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## **Discussion Questions**

1. What does it mean to "crucify the flesh"?
  2. Why is this a daily commitment for believers?
  3. How does the Holy Spirit help us overcome sinful desires?
  4. What practical steps can help us resist temptation?
  5. How does living a holy life bring glory to God?
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## **Key Lessons**

- Believers belong to Jesus Christ and have a new identity in Him.
- Christians are called to reject the control of sinful desires.
- Victory over sin comes through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Following Christ requires daily self-denial and obedience.
- A holy life reflects the transforming work of God's grace.

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## Memory Verse

### Galatians 5:24

*"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."*

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## Prayer

**Heavenly Father**, thank You for giving me new life through Jesus Christ. Help me to reject the desires of my sinful nature and to walk each day in the power of Your Holy Spirit. Strengthen me to resist temptation, pursue holiness, and live in a way that honors You. Shape my heart so that my thoughts, words, and actions reflect the character of Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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## Takeaway

**Those who belong to Christ have a new identity and a new way of living. Although the battle against sin continues, the Holy Spirit empowers believers to turn away from sinful desires and to**

**grow in holiness, reflecting the life and character of Jesus Christ each day.**