

1. Read Galatians 5:13-15 — ***What is our freedom for?***
 - a. Why are both legalism (trying to earn righteousness) and license (abusing grace to justify sin) dangerous? What does “the flesh” mean and in what ways do we indulge it?
 - b. Why does Paul connect the purpose of our freedom with serving others in love? What does Verse 14 teach us about the heart of God’s commands?
 - c. Why is being “destroyed by one another” (Verse 15) the inevitable result of a life chasing the flesh? Have you seen this happen to relationships around you or in the world before?
2. Read Galatians 5:16-18 — ***Why is the Christian life still a struggle?***
 - a. What does it practically mean to “walk by the Spirit”? What helps you stay in step with the Spirit throughout the week?
 - b. Why does spiritual conflict exist within believers (Verse 17)? Why do many Christians become discouraged by ongoing struggles with sin? How does this statement encourage you: “What if the presence of the struggle in your life is evidence of the Spirit in your life?”
 - c. What is the significance of Verse 18 (“If you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law”)? What is the difference between behavior modification and heart transformation?
3. Read Galatians 5:19-26 — ***What kind of life does the Spirit produce?***
 - a. Which items from the “acts of the flesh” list feel especially relevant in today’s culture? Why is it important that Paul includes both outward sins and inward attitudes in this list?
 - b. Which aspect of the fruit of the Spirit challenges you most right now: love, joy, peace, forbearance (patience), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, or self-control? Which of these qualities have you specifically seen displayed by members of your group?
 - c. The message highlighted five truths about spiritual fruit: it is natural, proportional, gradual, inevitable, and sacrificial. Which one stood out to you the most and why?
 - d. What does it mean practically to “crucify the flesh with its passions and desires” (Verse 24)? How does starving the flesh help us to feed the Spirit in our lives (Verse 25)?

Next Week: Galatians 6:1-18

Reading Plan: 2 Corinthians 9-13



GOD SAID



I HEARD



I WILL