

LifeGroup Study

Animated: Inside Out

SERMON SUMMARY

The Spirit's presence inside us is working to change us from the inside out to become more like Jesus. How do we know this to be true? It shows vibrantly through our character...it's evidence of a changed life in Christ! What is the fruit Paul is referring to exactly, and how can we actively live it out to impact the world around us.

KEY VERSE

"So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature." Galatians 5:16.

SERMON NOTES

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. What key idea or takeaway do you have from this week's sermon?
2. Read Galatians 5:15-18. Paul uses intense words like "bite," "devour," and "consumed" to describe a community operating in the flesh. What does a modern family, workplace, or church look like when it falls into this trap?
3. In verse 17 Paul describes a literal civil war happening inside every believer. How do you practically notice this tug-of-war between your "flesh" and the "Spirit" in your daily decision-making?
4. Why do you think Paul contrasts being "led by the Spirit" with being "under the law" (verse 18)? Why can't rule-following fix our internal flesh problem?
5. Read Galatians 5:19-21. Look at the word "acts." (vs. 19) How does viewing these behaviours as a product of human striving change the way you try to fight them?
6. Paul gives a heavy warning in verse 21. What is the difference between a believer who occasionally stumbles into these sins versus someone whose life is characterized by "doing" (*practicing*) them?
7. Read Galatians 5:22-23. Why is the metaphor of "fruit" so important here? What is the core difference between trying to *work* your way to being patient versus allowing the Spirit to produce the *fruit* of patience in you?
8. Read Galatians 5:24-26. What does it look like practically to "crucify the flesh with its passions" on an ordinary Tuesday morning? How do we stop feeding those old desires?
9. The phrase "keep in step" is a military term meaning to march in a straight line or stay in sync. How can we tell when we have drifted out of step with the Holy Spirit?
10. Verse 26 highlights conceit, provoking, and envying. How does a lack of daily alignment with the Spirit directly feed our tendency to compare ourselves to others?

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You the gift of your Spirit, giving us the power we need to live for You. Help us to keep in step with your Spirit, to make the choice each day to live in your power rather than in our own nature. May the fruit of the Spirit become more and more evident in the way we treat one another in our family, at church, in all of our relationships. May others see the fruit of the Spirit in us and be drawn to Jesus. We ask these things in Jesus' Name, Amen.