

## LifeGroup Questions

Based on: Galatians 5:13-25

May 5, 2019

### Overview

Have you ever caught yourself saying, “That person seems to be so much closer to God than I do. I wish I had faith like theirs. They seem to have more faith. They seem to walk with power. They are energized.”

They might just be more submitted to the power of the Spirit in their lives. Your fleshly desire (sinful nature) is constantly at war with the Holy Spirit. Someone you think has more faith may have been walking the walk longer. The more they submit and walk by the Spirit the more they will reflect God. How is this done? By reading God’s word. Allowing it to transform your heart and mind (Romans 12:1-2). Picture a band walking along in formation – if one band member is out of step it messes everyone up. You are not just walking in step with the Spirit for yourself but for the fellow believers around you. Galatians 5:19 reads, “The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

The acts of the flesh can be taken to the extreme. The more extreme, the worse it will be for you. Let’s contrast these with the fruit of the spirit. Galatians 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” The fruit of the spirit can be taken to the extreme – you can be extremely loving, extremely joyful, extremely peaceful, extremely kind and extremely gentle.

Wouldn’t it be great if when you go home you respond to your spouse, coworkers, family, and friends with the fruit of the spirit instead of the acts of the flesh?

- Next time you get into an argument with your spouse you respond in love instead of rage
- Instead of hatred and discord, you respond in joy, kindness, gentleness and self-control.
- This is walking by the Spirit – submitting to the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to push aside the desires of the flesh.

Be filled – means to be continually filled with the Spirit. It is a present tense verb. A continuous action.

For some of you it is time you seek to be continuously filled with the Spirit. This is done by reading God’s word, praying, finding fellow believers to hold you accountable, singing in worship, doing everything you can to be fully aware of God’s presence in your life.

### Bible Study: Galatians 5:13-25

Compare the acts of the flesh with the Fruit of the Spirit. Discuss as a group what it looks like to show the fruit of the Spirit.