

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE

Galatians 5:18-26--May 5th, 2024



Sermon Recap:

Conflicting Fruits

I. Walking in Conflict

- The Christian life is a life of conflict; not so much a conflict with the world, but instead a conflict within ourselves.
- The Spirit, when he begins to work, starts making you feel dissatisfied with yourself, and it leads into this clash, this conflict, and it is a conflict with the flesh; with the indwelling.

II. Works of the Flesh

a. Sexual Sins

- Impurity- sexual misbehavior.
- Sensuality- wild living

b. Religious Sins

- Idolatry- anything that competes with God for our affections.
- Sorcery- *pharmekia*- use of drugs in general, especially in the area of "magical practices."

c. Interpersonal Sins

- Enmity- hatred towards one another.
- Strife- discord or quarreling.
- Jealousy- fear, anger, rage, humiliation due to the actions of another.
- Fits of anger - outburst of rage.
- Rivalries- selfish ambition.
- Dissensions & Divisions- actions to disrupt or break unity.
- Envy- an emotion evoked when the lack the qualities, achievements, or possessions of another.

d. Personal Sins

- "Drunkenness, orgies, and things like these."

Warning: Those who indulge the flesh in this way, repeatedly, without conviction, without repentance, without battling the flesh will not inherit the kingdom of God. This lifestyle is indicative of someone who has not been saved by Christ, and does not walk with the Spirit.

V.24- we must "crucify" indwelling sin. Always be putting sin to death.

III. Fruits of the Spirit

- Love- to Christ and love to our neighbor – which Paul has told us fulfills the law. Not merely emotion, but concrete action.
- Joy-settled affirmation of your soul that God is good all the time, enabling you to accept all things in all His holy will without protest.
- Peace- inner serenity that arises from knowing we have been reconciled to God.
- Patience- helps us endure and bear all difficult circumstances and people without negativity.
- Kindness- responds to others with generosity without any regard to whether or not they deserve it.
- Goodness- values the right and the beautiful and the true and is displayed in generosity to others
- Faithfulness-a faithful person is someone in whom complete confidence can be placed.
- Gentleness- "strength under control."
- Self-control- the regulation of my own appetites and wants, the willingness to put myself second.

Discussion Questions:

- What's the difference between the flesh and the Spirit?
- What is the conflict between the sinful nature and the Spirit?
- Why do you think Paul lists out deeds of the flesh? What is "the flesh"?
- What are the four categories of the works of the flesh?
- What warning is given to those who live sinful lives?
- What does Paul mean when he says to crucify the flesh?
- Why is it easy to see the sins of the flesh in others and not within ourselves?
- How much should we rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance and power in our lives?
- What is the result of yielding to the Spirit? (5:22-23)

Application:

- What are you doing to keep in step with God's Spirit?
- What acts of the sinful nature tend to entangle you?
- How do you see the character of the Holy Spirit growing in your life?
- In which fruits are you particularly strong/weak?
- What can you do this week to nurture the character of the Holy Spirit in your life?

