



Galatians wk8: Freedom Through the Spirit

Introduction: Everyone wants freedom, but Paul insists that Christian freedom is not the ability to do whatever we want — it is the Spirit-empowered transformation that frees us to want what is good. Experiencing that freedom will mean engaging with a struggle between your flesh and the Spirit.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some modern examples—spiritual, relational, or cultural—where people confuse freedom with self-indulgence? Why do you think that misunderstanding is so common?
2. Read **Galatians 5:13**. How does this verse challenge both legalism and permissiveness? Which side do you personally tend to drift toward, and why??
3. Read **Galatians 5:16-17** Paul says there is an internal conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. How do you recognize when that conflict is happening?
4. Read **Galatians 5:19-23** Paul says the “acts of the flesh are obvious,” yet many of them—jealousy, selfish ambition, discord—can hide beneath the surface. If they are obvious, why list 15? Are there any surprises on this list? What does he mean in verse 21 about inheriting the kingdom of God?
5. Paul calls this the fruit (singular) of the Spirit, not fruits: these qualities grow together as evidence of a Spirit-led life. How does seeing them as a singular fruit affect how you understand them? How are these two lists helpful in recognizing patterns in your life?
6. The sermon used the image of early spring trees: they look bare from a distance, but up close you can see buds forming. Where do you see “buds” of spiritual growth in your life—small, quiet signs that the Spirit is at work even if the fruit isn’t fully visible yet??

Shaping Your Mind – But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” — Galatians 5:22–23

Moving Forward – May the Spirit grant you the freedom to want what is good.