

LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

Galatians 5:13-25

LEADER'S STUDY

This week consider asking questions about each other's lives. What are people rejoicing about this week? What challenges are they facing? What decisions or needs are ahead of them? A big part of being in a group is navigating life together. Your group can be a great source of encouragement for each other. Lean into that this week. This is your family in Christ

Walk by the Spirit:

We have freedom in Christ. We are made right with God completely through the finished work of Jesus. This is incredibly good news. Not only that but His Spirit now lives in us giving us the power to walk in obedience. This freedom that we have is to follow Jesus as Lord. As you read remember what he has saved you from, also remember what He has saved you to. We are new creations in Him and the old life is gone. We have turned away from self-leadership now it is time to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit, aligning ourselves with the word and the character of God. When we yield to the transforming work of God His Spirit produces a very specific type of Fruit. Ask yourself questions like, "Who is the king of my choices, my desires, my direction, my thoughts? What is the Holy Spirit pruning from my life? How am I using my freedom in Christ? How is God calling me to align myself with Him? How is God changing me?"

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus HAVE crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit let us also keep in step with the Spirit

Some helpful scripture: James 1:19-27, 2 Peter 1:2-11, Col 3:1-17
What other places in scripture speak this same truth?

How is God calling you to think and to live differently? How does this change your perspective today? How is God calling you to respond based on this scripture? Spend some time reading this whole chapter and meditating on it as you prepare for your meeting. Be willing to share this with your group and invite them to join you in sharing how God is asking them to respond to His word.

PREPARING BEFORE GROUP

PURPOSE: Life transformation through the Holy Spirit. He uses scripture and prayer to renew our minds and transform our lives!

PRAY: Pray for the people in your groups by name. Spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you lead well as you meditate on key passages and seek to know God's heart.

PLAN: As you prepare for your group things to remember:

- Relationships are the primary way we glorify God. Healthy deep relationships that lead each other to know and follow Jesus are built on trust.
- Greet everyone by name as they arrive, exercise hospitality to make them feel valued and welcome.
- Sometimes it is helpful to break into smaller groups for prayer. People often feel more comfortable sharing personal things in a smaller group.

A Culture of Inviting:

If your groups aren't full keep inviting people to join you. Encourage your groups to do the same. God wants to impact Hancock County through your group!

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INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

READ Galatians 5:13-25

in the ESV or similar word-for-word translation.

READ AGAIN in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

Or try retelling the story in your own words with your bibles closed, then look to see what you missed, changed, moved or left out.

(With larger portions of scripture, it's good for multiple people to read it aloud. Especially online, this helps people get used to using their voice)

Try to summarize the passage in your own words.

STUDY QUESTIONS

What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?

What did you discover or learn about God and His character from this passage?

**What have you learned or discovered about people from this passage?
Another way to ask is: How can people respond?**

What does it mean to walk by the Spirit?

What is freedom in Christ?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How are you going to obey this passage?

What is your "I will" statement?
(Encourage everyone to steer clear of "we" or "us" or "Christians" statements)

With whom are you going to share what you have learned?
(This is a critical part of growth that is often overlooked. If we can share it with someone else it means we really understand it, it cements it in our own minds, it makes us accountable to the truth and it blesses the one who hears the it. Rom 10:17)

Based on this passage, what can we pray about and how should we pray?