

LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

Galatians 5:16

LEADER'S STUDY

Living in the power of the Holy Spirit:

The Holy Spirit is a gift that God gives us as genuine believers. In fact the presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer is evidence that we belong to God. The very same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to every believer in our daily life. The Holy Spirit gives us power to live and walk in obedience to Jesus. This is power that we did not have before genuine faith in Christ. Now we actually have freedom from the power of sin and we have the power to walk in obedience, love one another and help others know and follow Jesus. Walking in obedience and not by the flesh doesn't happen by trying harder or just doing good things. It only happens through the completed work of Jesus Christ and the indwelling power of His Holy Spirit. As you read this week, take some time to meditate on this verse and others like it. Submit yourself to God and ask Him to lead you in His mission. Eph 2 says that "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, for good works, that He prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." The power of the Holy Spirit is there to empower us to accomplish the "good works" that God has prepared because of our love for Him and others.

As you prepare for this week ask yourself questions like this. What is walking by the Spirit? Does this accurately describe my life? What would my life look like if I were walking by the Spirit? How do I walk by the Spirit? What does it mean to be crucified with Christ? How is God revealing Himself and his character through this scripture? How is God changing my thinking? Be willing to share areas that He is calling you to "follow Him" and make clear "I" statements about how you are going to align with Him.

Some helpful scripture: Ephesians 4:20-24, Romans 12:1&2, Phil 2:12-13, Romans 8:14
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: It is not too early to start looking for new leaders within your group. We will be holding a new leader training this summer for groups to launch in the fall. As you identify potential leaders, encourage them to come to that training and start talking about what it would look like to launch a new group. You might even consider coming with them to help them take that next step.

Consider taking some time to break into small groups for prayer. This is a way for people to feel more comfortable sharing personal needs and praying specifically for one another.

LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

Galatians 5:16

INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

READ Galatians 5:16
And meditate on it.

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

Read it again in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

(With larger portions of scripture like this, 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.

POTENTIAL STUDY QUESTIONS

These are just questions you might ask to help your group discussion. Don't feel like you need to answer all of these as a group

What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?

What seems to be the main point of these verses?

How does this portion of scripture point to Jesus and the gospel?

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

Look at one or two key words and define them really clearly, then look at them in context with that definition. Does this change your understanding?

Why did God bring me to this scripture today?

What parts of this passage are challenging to your current way of thinking?

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?