

LEADER PAGE | Acts | WEEK 8 of 30 | Sermon date: February 20, 2022

<u>Discipleship Phrase</u>: God's church, God's way.

Big Idea for Series: God's church is built on His principles.

<u>Abiding</u> (grow as a disciple yourself)

Read, pray, and meditate on Galatians 5:16-26 every day this week to prepare your heart to hear the message on Sunday. Spend time comparing the fruit of the Spirit vs. the acts of the flesh.

<u>Leading</u> (facilitate your group effectively)

A few weeks ago curriculum focused on the fact that Christians should be walking in the Spirit and that "fruit" is the evidence of that. In contrast this week, the discussion turns to the struggle our flesh has with the Spirit. Galatians 5:7 emphasizes that the flesh and the Spirit are in opposition with each other. As you begin discussion this week, prepare to dig deeper into some less obvious ways we live by our flesh. What ways are you guilty of idolatry or worshipping "false gods"? Or you can approach the relational areas by asking members about how they treat others. Do you have anger, speak ill, create division, or have jealousy towards others? Question 2 is an opportunity to dig deeper with how we live daily with the struggle of the flesh. How do you deal with those problems and what does your character reflect? In wrapping up discussion, we look to identify what action we each can take to live in the presence of God – full of the Spirit. Your alignment with God's Spirit is directly correlated to what you choose to focus on. How's your time spent in God's Word and prayer? Where do your thoughts go? Do you need someone to hold you accountable?

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

We are talking about the works of the flesh and how vastly different they are from the fruit of the spirit. As your group shares their truth of the ways they walk in the flesh and not the Spirit, be prayerful for God to reveal the ways you can encourage and equip each person throughout the week. We do life together to grow as daily disciples and part of that growth includes accountability. Be ready to follow up with each person as you hold them accountable to their walk through the relational equity you've built thus far; standing in truth...framed in love.

Church Announcements (be in the know & share with your group)

Weekend service time change! Starting February 27th we will move to 2 services, 9 AM and 11 AM.

REMEMBER:

"Every group deserves a great leader."



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Welcome/Introductions & Opening Prayer

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose what fits best)

Weekly Vision (Announcements, The "Why", Goal, Outreach, Guidelines, & Branching)

<u>Guidelines</u>: Confidentiality, Avoid Crosstalk, Avoid fixing & Rescuing, Use "I" Statements, Contribute over Consume, Be Mindful of Self (allow all to share & use humor responsibly).

Ask a Hook Question (a thought-provoking question) What's your favorite rivalry and why?

Recap the Message (ask a <u>couple</u> people to share)

Scripture References (Read scriptures directly from the Bible) **Acts** 6:1-7 (ESV), **Galatians** 5:19-21 (ESV)

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. Problems become bigger when we try to solve them in our flesh.
- 2. Prayer and the ministry of the Word are sufficient for the Kingdom of God to move forward.
- 3. Our character matters and should reflect the fruit of the Spirit.
- 4. We all find places in ourselves that don't line up with the life and character God desires. That should inspire us to grow—not quit.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

- 1. Read Galatians 5:19-21. What are the works of the flesh and elaborate on the meaning of some of the less obvious ones?
- 2. What are you facing that you are trying to deal with by works of the flesh instead of by the fruit of the Spirit?
- 3. How do you pursue God's presence more so that the fruit of the spirit is more evident than the works of the flesh?

Prayer Requests (Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer))