



Spirit Empowered, Not Fleshy Imprisonment | Galatians 5:16-18

1. As we continue on in our series, Grace: Essential Gift for Imperfect Disciples. What has been resonating with you so far? What have you found to be encouraging what have you found to be challenging?
2. Laurence set up the sermon on Sunday by reflecting on the apostle Paul's experience, and how that has motivated him in his ministry to others. How does your experience affect and motivate you to engage the ministry?
3. On Sunday, we thought a little bit about Galatians 4: 20 and 5: 13-14, and about the ministry of discipleship. As you think about the gift of grace offered to you, who are you mindful of that the Lord is leading you to encourage and disciple. How might you serve that person well?
4. Read Galatians 5:16-18
5. What does it mean for Christians to live by the Spirit? What has been your experience in this regard?
6. Paul's understanding suggests that there is an element of choice in how we live, by the Spirit or by the flesh. Laurence said 'when we don't keep up with the spirit of God, we find our life and our Christian experience, somewhat diminished.' Have you ever experienced this and if you have, what did you do as a result? What advice could you give to someone who is struggling in this area?
7. We were encouraged to not nominally follow rules, but to passionately pursue a relationship with the Lord, what difference does this make in the way we live as Christians? How does John 14:15-17 speak into this?
8. Life in the Spirit was described as a life of surrender, we thought briefly about Moses. When we think about surrender, what stories or people come to mind? What lessons have we learnt from them that we are able to share to encourage others?
9. On Sunday, we thought about keeping up with the Spirit and falling behind, and the tension between the two experiences. How are you living by the Spirit? What difference is that making? Do you need to make any change?
10. Share in prayer. Psalm 63:1-5 or Exodus 33:15-16 may help to focus some thoughts.