

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Gospel Freedom & the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:13-25

Pastor John Mahaffey

Sunday, May 20, 2018

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions
or family or personal devotions*

1. Read this week's passage - Galatians 5:13-25. What have we been called to be free from? How does this freedom make our lives different?
2. In chapter 5 we are told not to lose our freedom (5:1) or to abuse our freedom (5:13). In what ways are we prone to abuse our freedom? What does Paul suggest as a possible antidote?
3. Read Galatians 5:13 and also I Peter 2:16-17. Explain how it is possible to have freedom but to also be obedient to God's commandments? Doesn't freedom mean we can do what we wish?
4. 'Maintaining Gospel Freedom' involves us in a constant conflict between "the flesh" (sinful nature) and "the Spirit." What does Paul mean by these two phrases? Reflect on your own personal struggle.
5. Verses 19-21 warns of the acts of a sinful nature, and finishes with the catch all "and the like". What thoughts and behaviours from our current age could you add to this list of sinful acts?
6. Where Pastor John indicated that "Freedom involves Death"; read Galatians 5:25 and Galatians 2:20 and discuss what it actually means to be 'crucified with Christ'?
7. Victory in the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit comes as we crucify the flesh (5:24) and "walk in the Spirit" (5:25). How do we do both? What do these two phrases mean in practice?
8. A Christian friend of yours gets drunk one night, then reads 5:21 the next morning and concludes he has lost his salvation. How would you help him?
9. Review Galatians 5:22-23 and share any examples on how each of the fruit of the Spirit is being manifested in your life?

10. Pastor John's message spoke of how we are given freedom in Christ, not to serve our selfish desires, but to serve each other. Read 1 John 1:5-7 and discuss the following questions:
- a. What is God described as in this passage?
 - b. Why is it logical that if God is described in this way, there can be no darkness in Him?
 - c. How does verse 6 relate to what we have been discussing about the proper and improper ways to use our freedom in Christ?
 - d. We know that Christ cleanses us from sin when we follow Him, but what is the added benefit that we receive here and how does this benefit relate to what John said our freedom was to be used for?