



RENOVARÉ, PT. 2 –Living the Gospel Galatians 5:22-26

Wow! If you haven't been motivated, convicted, encouraged, or challenged by Galatians yet, this week would have done one or all of the above. Paul continues to love and challenge the Galatians to remember who they are, the lives they have been given, and an understanding of *who* they are meant to be. Many of us are familiar with the list Paul presents in this week's passage, but we don't always remember it's context. When we walk in the Spirit, our lives will evidence the characteristics in Paul's list as we love others. What does it all boil down to? Loving God and loving others.

Getting Started

I wish I could remember who said it, but Ted referenced an amazing quote that will be a great launching point for your group. Read it aloud, pause for a few seconds, and then discuss responses.

"Love is a pain our hearts long for."

What do you think this is communicating?

Is the love spoken about here a one-time thing?

How can you relate to this? Describe the situation.

What kind of love do we all long for but never fully receive?

As always, it is important to make sure we know what Paul is saying in the broader context of his letter. Review what he has said so far in the preceding chapters. Be prepared to explain how this week's passage fits into his bigger argument.

Review

Understand the nature of the battle . . . verses 16-18

Embrace the necessity of introspection . . . verses 19-21

Evaluate you life by the character that the Spirit produces . . . verses 22-23

1. love . . .

4. patience . . .

7. faithfulness . . .

2. joy . . .

5. kindness . . .

8. gentleness . . .

3. peace . . .

6. goodness . . .

9. self-control . . .

Before digging into the study, let's step back and review *everything* we have studied so far. Summarize Galatians. What is the nature of the battle we face?

What do these characteristics describe?

In which of these are you currently weak?

Why do we need to embrace introspection?

Describe and define each characteristic in your own words.

Which characteristics do you see in other? Tell them.

Ted helped us understand we should use the preceding list as a means of evaluating our lives. Now we are going to look at our new lives a little closer. Read the final three verses of our passage and discuss answers to the following questions

Live the new life that is defined by the Spirit . . . verses 24-26

The fleshly capacity was . . . conquered at the cross.

Remind yourself daily that the flesh is not your identity.

Submission to the Holy Spirit allows us . . . to experience the reality of the crucified fleshly capacity.

Rely upon the Spirit to fulfill each need moment by moment.

Self-protection is the opposite of . . . being directed by the Spirit.

Reject self-protection as the way you approach life.

What does our fleshly capacity being crucified mean?

How does the Spirit redeem our needs and desires?

How does this affect how we think about how we live?

How are you self-protective? What do you need to change?

Application

This is our time to pause and give the Spirit time to work in our hearts and guide us in the paths He would have us follow. We all have specific issues we need to work on, and God directs us specifically and deliberately. Let's consider His words to us.

What jumped out at you from this week's passage?

What exactly are you going to do differently this week?

What do you think you need to work on the most?

Who do you know that lives in the way we're talking about?

Prayer

Praise Him for being God and for His myriad attributes (mercy, holiness, etc.). Praise Him for the many blessings He has poured upon us. Praise Him for His grace and love; for your salvation. Praise Him for the daily things you can often take for granted. Pray that God's will shall be realized in all directions. Pray for TCBC's leadership, that we will remain focused.