

Small Group Guide 16

Dealing with the Flesh

Galatians 5:24–26 (ESV)

²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

1. A Reminder v. 24

a. You Belong to Jesus

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV) ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

b. You Became His through Death

Romans 6:6 (ESV) ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

Romans 6:11 (ESV) ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 6:14 (ESV) ¹⁴ But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Colossians 3:2–3 (ESV) ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

c. What We Die to

2. A Requirement v. 25

a. Live by the Spirit

b. Walk in the Spirit

3. The Reason v. 26

a. So We Don't become Conceited

b. So We Don't Provoke One Another

Hebrews 10:24–25 (ESV) ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

c. So We Don't Envy One Another

Philippians 2:1–3 (ESV) ¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Questions for Application:

1. How can remembering the Gospel help us win the battle with the flesh?
2. What are some practical ways we can grow more in following the Spirit in our Life?
3. Why is Paul's reason for following the Spirit so important in our Home? Work? Church?