



Small Group Discussion Guide

Freedom in Christ – Week 3: Freedom to Live Differently

Galatians 5:13–23

Icebreaker

When you were growing up, did your family have a garden? If so, what was your favorite thing to grow or harvest? If not, what would you want to grow?

Read Galatians 5:13-23 Together

Digging Into the Word

1. Freedom Has a Purpose

Paul says, "You were called to be free." (v.13)

- How does our culture typically define freedom?
- How does Paul's definition of freedom differ?
- Why do you think Paul immediately follows "you were called to be free" with "serve one another in love"?

Key Thought: Christian freedom is not permission to live for ourselves—it is the power to love and serve others.

2. Who Is Leading Your Life?

Paul contrasts living according to the flesh with walking by the Spirit.

- What does it mean to "walk by the Spirit" rather than simply trying harder?
- When are you most tempted to let your "first reaction" lead instead of the Holy Spirit?
- What practical habits help you become more aware of the Spirit's leading throughout the week?

Key Thought: Freedom doesn't mean having no leader—it means following the right Leader.

3. What's Growing?

Paul contrasts the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit.

- Which fruit of the Spirit has God been growing in your life recently?
- Which fruit do you most need the Holy Spirit to develop?
- Why do you think Paul calls it **the fruit** (singular) of the Spirit instead of "the fruits"?

Key Thought: Spiritual growth is usually slow, but it should be noticeable over time.

Personal Reflection

The sermon asked one simple question: "What's growing in your life?"

Take a few moments to reflect:

- If someone observed my life this week, what kind of fruit would they see?
- Is there an area where the "works of the flesh" have been showing up?
- Where have I seen evidence that the Holy Spirit is changing me?

Prayer

Lord, thank You for setting us free—not only from sin and condemnation, but also to live differently. Help us to walk by Your Spirit each day. Produce in us love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control so that others may see Jesus through our lives. May our freedom always lead to fruit. In Jesus' name, Amen.