



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

DATE 11/1/17

BIBLE PASSAGE Galatians 5:16-26

1. KNOW THE CONTEXT

Galatians is a letter Paul wrote to the Christians in the region of Galatia where he helped spread the Gospel and expand the church. The theme of the book is to urge the Christians to return to live in unity with other Christians as well as to live according to the grace Jesus has given and not according to the Mosaic law. Paul is reminding the Christians that their salvation is based on their faith in Jesus and not by upholding the law of the Old Testament.

2. READ THE BIBLE PASSAGE TOGETHER

3. SPEND TIME IN OBSERVATION

Which verses, ideas, or characters stuck out to you?
What questions could come from this passage?

Observation notes:

Questions:

4. SPEND TIME IN INTERPRETATION

What did this passage mean to the original audience?

What would it have felt like to be a character in this passage, and who in the passage is the hero/role model (if any)?

What's the main point of this passage?

Questions	Answers
What does it mean to have a sinful nature?	Humans have a natural inclination to sin. We don't learn to sin, we naturally do it. We are born with this inclination to sin, so we have to work on it from the time we are born.
What happens if I follow my sinful desires?	Following your sinful desires will lead you on a path toward a destructive life that will hurt your relationships with others but more importantly with your relationship with God.
What does, "there is no law against these things" mean?	There is no limit to how much you may experience those things. You cannot love too much or have too much joy, peace, or patience. You are free to experience as much of those things as you can!

5. SPEND TIME IN APPLICATION

What is the "universal truth" God wants to teach us from this passage?

How can we apply the message of this passage to our daily lives?

1. Can you think of some examples of what a "sinful nature" looks like in a little kid? In a teenager?
2. Do you agree or disagree that we all have a sinful nature? Why?
3. If we need God's help to control our sinful nature, what are some ways we can get his help?
4. What are some ways we can increase the amount of "fruit" the Holy Spirit produces in us?

6. PRAY

Follow-up notes: