

## Life Church Handout for September 8, 2013

### The Gospel - Accept No Substitutes (Part 15)

- **Read the Passage: Galatians 5:16-26**
- **Main Idea**
  - Live by the Spirit so that you avoid the sinful behavior that comes from self-direction.
- **What does this mean?**
  - Galatians 5:16-18
    - "Live by the Spirit" means live by listening to the Spirit. - Romans 8:5
    - The Spirit resists our sinful tendencies.
      - Two trees in the Garden of Eden: the tree of life, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil - Genesis 2:1-17; 3
      - Eternal life (life of the coming age as opposed to the present age) - knowing the Father and Jesus. - John 17:1-3
      - The flesh is that aspect of your life that operates independently from God. The part of you that doesn't "phone home".
      - If you don't listen to the Spirit, you're listening to your flesh. Left to its own devices, your flesh will reinforce habits that make it harder for God to use you.
  - Galatians 5:19-26 (see below).
- **Purpose of the Sermon (what listeners should do)**
  - Understand what this teaches us about the work of the Holy Spirit.
  - Listen to the Holy Spirit.
  - Understand the works of the flesh and how to avoid them.
- **Understand what this teaches us about the work of the Holy Spirit.**
- **Listen to the Holy Spirit.**
  - Read the Word so the Holy Spirit will have something to work with.
  - Pray
  - Listen - Develop a lifestyle of listening.
  - God rewards those who diligently seek him. - Hebrews 11:1-6
- **Understand the works of the flesh and how to avoid them.**
  - sexual immorality (πορνεία - Gk),  
"Fornication"; to engage in sexual immorality of any kind, often with the implication of prostitution — 'to engage in illicit sex, to commit fornication, sexual immorality, fornication, prostitution.'
    - Leviticus 18, 20 (Consider Matthew 5:27-30)
    - Matthew 5:32 (Matthew 5:31-32)
    - Matthew 15:19 (Matthew 15:1-20)
    - Matthew 19:9 (Matthew 19:1-12)
    - Acts 15:20 (Acts 15:1-35)
    - Notes on homosexuality

- Video - pastor politician gay marriage (approx 4:20)
- Video - West Wing (Jed Bartlett vs. Dr. Jacobs - approx 4 min)
- Jesus spoke about sexual immorality: Matthew 5:32; 15:19; 19:19
- Sexual immorality is defined by Leviticus 18, 20
- Jesus is the authoritative interpreter of the O.T. - Matthew 5 - 7
- Jesus prohibits the O.T. penalty for sexual immorality - John 8:1-11
- Paul on Homosexuality - Romans 1; 1Corinthians 6:9; 1Timothy 1:10
- impurity (ἀκαθαρσία - Gk)  
“Uncleanness” ; any substance which is filthy or dirty — ‘filth, dirt, rubbish.’

the state of moral impurity, especially in relationship to sexual sin — ‘impurity, immorality, filthiness.’

- Matthew 23:27 (Matthew 23:27-28)
- Romans 1:24 (Romans 1:18-32)
- Ephesians 5:3 (Ephesians 4:17 - 5:21)
- debauchery (ἀσέλγεια - Gk)  
“License,” mostly physical, figuratively spiritual. “Debauchery” or “licentiousness” is the sense in 2 Pet. 2:7 (Sodom and Gomorrah) and Eph. 4:19 (the pagan world). Sexual excess is probably meant in Gal. 5:19 and certainly so in Rom. 13:13; 2 Cor. 12:21; 2 Pet. 2:2, 18. [O. BAUERNFEIND, I, 490]
- 2Peter 2:7 (2Peter 2)

### • **Group Activities / Questions**

- Consider only the works of the flesh we discussed today.
- Has your understanding of these works of the flesh changed? If so, how?
- What makes you more vulnerable to each of these works of the flesh?
- What helps you avoid each of these works of the flesh?
- How can we help you live victoriously in this area?

## **Life Church Mission Statement**

Our mission is to teach people:

to enjoy knowing Jesus without fear, inadequacy, guilt, or shame,  
to follow him together as his family,  
to function together as his body,  
and to work together to expand his kingdom.

### **Understanding The Bible**

Unless otherwise indicated, scriptures are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV) Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. ®. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Here, for your convenience, are the Bible references for today's sermon at Life Church. We use mostly the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible so that you can read it in modern English. You may have been accustomed to reading or hearing the King James Version of the Bible, which uses older English (with words like "thee" , "thou", "thine", "believeth", etc.). Don't be alarmed - the passages are really from the Bible!

The Bible was originally written in three ancient languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. None of the people in the Bible, and none of the people who God used to write it spoke English. In fact, English did not even exist as a language when the Bible was written. The King James Version, first published in 1611, was a translation of the Bible from it's original languages into the every day English that people used back then - almost 400 years ago! They didn't just speak that way in church - they spoke that way with everyone. The King James Version was "modernized" in 1769, but, even so, English has certainly changed a lot since then! **We believe that if you're reading an English translation of the Bible it ought to be up to date - written in the English you speak every day. God wants you to understand his Word so that you can put it into practice!**