

Galatians – Part VII

What Everyone Desires – Galatians 5:22-23

Message Discussion Guide

Connect

- If you could have perfect peace, perfect joy, or perfect relationship harmony, which would you choose and why?

Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read Galatians 5:22-23.
 - Give a definition of each of the nine characteristics named in these two verses and an example of what that looks like in a person's life. At the same time, identify the opposite of each of these and describe what that would look like in a person's life.
- Read John 15:1-10.
 - What do we learn from Jesus' analogy that he is the vine? What does that tell us about who he is and what he does?
 - What do we learn from Jesus' analogy that we are the branches? What does that tell us about who we are and what we do?
 - What do we learn from Jesus' analogy that God is the gardener? What does that tell us about who God is and what he does?
 - How many times does Jesus use the word "remain" (or "abide") in these ten verses? What is the significance of that word? What is Jesus emphasizing?
 - When Jesus says apart from me you can do nothing (vs. 5), what does he mean?
- Read James 4:8.
 - In your own words, what does the first half of this verse command believers to do? What are some ways we can do that?
 - In your own words, what does the first half of this verse promise that God will do?

Respond

- What are some of the unhelpful and futile ways people in our world attempt to obtain love, joy, peace, patience...
- If someone asked you to tell them how to find ultimate peace and joy, how would you use Galatians 5:22-23 to explain to them the good news?

Bonus for Thinkers

- Bible scholars differ widely on this, but why do you think Paul uses the singular form of the word "fruit" instead of the plural "fruits?"

First Baptist Nacogdoches Bible Reading Plan

Day	Scripture
Monday (3/30)	Galatians 5:22-23, John 15:1-10
Tuesday (3/31)	Hebrews 4:1-16
Wednesday (4/1)	Hebrews 5:11-6:20
Thursday (4/2)	Hebrews 10:19-39
Friday (4/3)	Hebrews 11:1-40

Daily Devotion Questions

Monday (3/30) — Galatians 5:22-23 and John 15:1-10

- Review the “Respond” questions from yesterday’s message discussion guide.

Tuesday (3/31) — Hebrews 4:1-16

- The writer of Hebrews uses four phrases to describe the word of God (4:12). Write down what you believe each of these four phrases means in your own words.
- 4:13 frightens many people. Where does your mind go to when you read that we must all give an account? Write down one or two words that reference that one thing. Spend a few minutes confessing and seeking counsel from the Lord about that one thing.
- According to 4:14-16, why can we draw near to the throne of Grace? What will happen when we do draw near?
- What does the writer mean when he talks about the Sabbath rest for God’s people (4:9)? According to 4:1-10, who will enter that rest?

Wednesday (4/1) — Hebrews 5:11 – 6:20

- According to 6:4-8, what is the defining mark of someone who is genuinely saved?
- The writer of Hebrews speaks of becoming spiritually dull and indifferent in 6:12. In the previous two verses he tells us how to keep this from happening. Write down the key? How can you engage in this today?
- 6:19 speaks of an anchor and a hope. What do these consist of (6:17-18)? How do these bring us encouragement and strength?
- Read Hebrews 5:11-14. What is the difference between milk and solid food when it comes to lessons from the word of God?

Thursday (4/2) — Hebrews 10:19-39

- By what reason can we have confidence to come before the Father in prayer? (The answer is given twice in 10:19-20.)
- According to 10:23, why should we hold fast our commitment without wavering?
- The writer says that because the end of time is drawing near, there are three things we must do (10:24-25). Write those three down. Then write down one way you can be more committed to each one.
- Read Hebrews 10:26-31. Why is it a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God?

Friday (4/3) — Hebrews 11:1-40

- According to 11:6, what are the two things a person must do if he desires to draw near to God? What do these two things have to do with faith?
- In 11:13-16, what specific hope is motivating people to live boldly for the Lord? How should that same hope influence the way you live today?
- After reading these many stories of faith, write down a brief description of two times in your life where you have exhibited faith in the Lord. What is one area of your life where the Lord wants you to have greater faith right now?
- Read Hebrews 11:1-3. Explain this definition of faith in your own words. What other ways is the word FAITH used in the Bible?