

GoDeeper



CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR SMALL GROUP, FAMILY, OR IN YOUR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY TIME.

Galatians | Chapter 5 | Jason Mecum | 06.06.2021
Replay message at: <http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages>

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 6:17-19 ESV

“But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?”

This morning, Pastor Jason spoke to us about Paul and Galatians chapter 5, telling us that Paul is battling this false belief among the Galatians, which is being spread by false teachers, that believers must adhere to the Mosaic law and observe all of the Jewish rules in order to be saved. Specifically, that believers must continue to be circumcised. He tells us the reason this is such a dangerous teaching is because it neutralizes the power of the cross and that justification comes through faith in Christ alone, not in obedience to the law. The Galatians have bought into this new teaching and now Paul is writing to them to set things straight.

We are the temple of the Spirit of God because He dwells within us. We are born again once we've come to faith in Christ but we still have the same flesh and its desires. Sometimes we go through life, not really even noticing these problems. However, when we receive the Holy Spirit, our eyes are opened to these things in our life. We see the cracks in the walls, the cobwebs, the peeling paint, the dirty floor and we begin to clean the temple up. Simply put, “sanctification” means to clean-house.

This morning Pastor Jason had us imagine that our life is like a garden. Before faith, our gardens are overgrown with weeds and thorns. The grass is itchy and dry, there are dry patches of dirt, broken fences allow animals to freely enter. Through sanctification, we begin to pull those weeds and till the soil and water the grass and mend the fences. Our garden begins to thrive. This is graves turning into gardens. This is dry bones coming to life. This is what it means to be a member of the body of Christ. One big garden, producing fruit that the Lord uses to feed a starving world and draw them to Him. Trees that produce fruit can feed those around them.

The state of our “gardens” as believers affects the world around us. As believers, we are ambassadors for Christ to the world. Sanctification is important for us, as well as the unbelievers around us. Pastor Jason Mecum urged us to “Walk in the Spirit, pull the weeds and the garden will grow”.

- What is growing rampantly in your life--that you are ignoring--keeping you from God and doing His work?
- Can you think of a time you needed to “pull some weeds” or “clean-house”? How did you know and what did you do?

Pastor Jason reminded us that 1 Corinthians 2 tells us that to those without the Spirit, it all sounds like foolishness and they can't understand it. Why would the world want “rules” and “condemnation” in their life when they can't perceive a difference between their life and a “believer”?

- Have you ever had someone ask you “What is different about you”?
 - What did you say?
 - If not, what would you say if you were asked?
- Have you ever asked someone else (out loud or to yourself) “What is different about them” or “why are they different from others”?
 - What did they say?

If you aren't hearing from God...maybe you have a barrier and need to “pull weeds”.

- Has there been a time in the past that you felt like you were not hearing from God?
 - What did you do/change?
- Do you feel like you are growing with God and actively hearing Him?
 - If not, what WILL you do to change that?