



Connect: LIFEgroup discussion guide

a Christian community of fresh hope

Holy Spirit makes us new us. Gal 5 & 6 Sun 31st May 2020

WELCOME: From this coming week up to 50 people can attend a place of worship, however there are requirements that limit us from gathering for Sunday services at this stage. Places of Worship have been prone to outbreaks, so limits have been imposed: there is no communal singing, no physical touch – meaning no taking up offerings, sharing communion or having morning tea and numbers are less than half our Sunday attendance. However, it does mean that any of our LIFEgroups can meet on the church premises – as long as we have 4 square metres per person, we keep 1.5 metres apart when we gather, and follow necessary hygiene protocols. If your group would like to use the church building please contact Deb - deb@connectchurch.org.au

REFLECTION: What has moved you in the last week or so – have you been more aware of the leading of the Holy Spirit? What lessons are there from Lydia and the launching of the Philippian church, that we can apply to Connect as we move forward?

DISCUSSING SUNDAY'S ONLINE SERVICE:

- How do you feel about the idea that God invites EVERYONE to be part of the Family?
 - Who are the people you would most love to become part of God's Family?
- PUSH PAUSE:** Take some time to pray for the people you've each mentioned – with the permission of everyone gathered, make a list to pray for those on each other's hearts.*

Read Acts 15:13-19

- What ways do you think there are that the church (Connect and/or others in your experience) makes it difficult for "Gentiles" (any people) who are turning to God?
- Why do you think that is?
- What do you think we need to change to be more accepting?

Read Gal 5:1-6

- How would you summarise the message of these verses?
- In what ways do you think people these days, "get tied up again in slavery to the law?"
- At the time of writing "circumcision" was the major issue, what might be some ways today that we try to do things ourselves to "make us right with God?"
- How would you describe "faith expressing itself in love?"

Read Gal 5:13-14

- What would you say is the major message of these verses?
- What might it mean to serve one another in love?
- In what ways would you like to see some of these outcomes in your LIFEgroup & Connect church?

Read Gal 5:16

- A literal translation is more like *“Walk in the Spirit and you won’t fulfil the desires of your flesh.”* What does this add to your understanding?
- Mike equated “living or walking in the Spirit” to “wearing Kingdom glasses” – what difference do you think it would make to always live that way?

Read Gal 5:22-26

- How can we recognise people who are “living in the Spirit?”
- What does it mean to you to have *“nailed the passions and desires of [our] sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there?”*

Read Gal 6:4-5

- How do we live as people who are “living in the Spirit?”
- What does it mean to you to be *“responsible for our own conduct?”*

Read Gal 6:7-10

- In what ways do you think people reap what they sow in life?
- What does it mean to you to *“do good to everyone – especially to those in the family of faith?”*

Read Gal 6:15-16

- What does it mean to be *“transformed into a new creation?”*
- How do we surrender to God to allow this and become *“the new people of God?”*

Pray together:

Pray for one another that we would allow the Holy Spirit to transform us, to make us new in Christ. Pray that we might truly love one another, so that we more clearly represent Jesus in the world around us. Pray that we will be challenged as we continue to seek God and listen for His direction as we head into a new season. Pray this blessing over one another:

Dear brothers and sisters, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Galatian 6:18