



God's Faithfulness, Our Fruitfulness

WEEK 3

Alpha Prayer Points

- Pray for the Fall Morning Alpha that started October 26th that the Holy Spirit would open the eyes of the seekers and work in their hearts to know the truth of the gospel.
- Pray for continued smooth logistics for the class.
- Continue to pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of those who came to Spring 2023 Alpha and who are meeting now in twice-monthly post-Alpha groups. Pray that as they learn and experience Spiritual Practices, they would feel drawn to the love of Jesus.

How Did it Go?

10 Minutes

PROVIDE SUPPORTS, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO ONE ANOTHER FOR PUTTING THE WORD OF GOD INTO PRACTICE. TOGETHER, FIND WAYS TO LIVE OUT THE SCRIPTURE.

- What stayed with you from last week's study? How did you put that into practice?
- Did you consider who or what may be cutting in on your good race to keep you from obeying and living out the truth of the gospel in your life?
- Who did you show gracious love to simply because God loves you that way and not because of what they can do for you?

Read Aloud

Passage for this week: **GALATIANS 5:13-26.**

Head

15-20 Minutes

OBSERVE THE TEXT AND THE AUTHOR'S MAIN POINTS

1. "You were called to freedom." vs.13 Define the kind[s] of freedom the Apostle Paul means by this assertion.
2. "For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" v. 14. How is the whole law encompassed in this command?
3. "I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God." v. 21 What things? How is this warning compatible with God's grace and our freedom?

Heart

15-20 Minutes

ENVISION HOW THE TEXT—WHEN APPLIED—MIGHT TRANSFORM YOUR INNER LIFE IN TERMS OF YOUR THOUGHTS, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIORS

1. What do we need for more "fruit of the Spirit" to come into our lives?
2. "But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another." v. 15. In community with other believers, some of whom are less mature, how can we become non-judgmental?
3. What attitudes can protect us from turning freedom into disobedience? How can we cultivate such attitudes?

Hands

10 Minutes

APPLY THE TEXT BY MOVING FROM INWARD REFLECTION TO OUTWARD ACTION
LOOKING FOR WAYS TO LIVE THE TEXT OUT IN OUR LIVES. THESE ARE SPECIFIC,
CONCRETE EXAMPLES BUT THEY ARE NOT THE ONLY WAY - THEY ARE IDEA-STARTERS
FOR HOW TO PUT THE WORD OF GOD INTO PRACTICE.

Reaching Upwards: Growing in Your Relationship with God

- Read this passage every day this week, each day in a different translation.
- Choose and memorize two key passages from this text. Select and start now. Be ready to recite next week. If time permits, declare your passages now, with your group.

Reaching Outward: Investing in Your Neighbors

- Make it your practice to ask people "How can I pray for you?" Particularly ask those you encounter outside your circle of Christian friends. Let the Holy Spirit guide you whether to pray for them right then or to wait until later.

- Re-examine your life to be sure you are exhibiting to your neighbors love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Let “the fruit of the Spirit” show in your actions. What action can you take or change can you make?
- As the holidays approach, FPC ministry partners have a number of volunteer opportunities.. Contact Madie Weir, Missions Coordinator at mweir@fpchouston.org to for more information, and select one to join in with your small group.

Reaching Beyond

- Volunteers are needed for set up and all shopping days for the 22nd annual FPC Advent Missions Market held Sundays December 3, 10, and 17 from 8 AM - 1:00 PM in Palm Court. The market offers unique crafts from global partner artisans worldwide that make excellent Christmas gifts. Sales provide support and awareness for FPC global ministry partners. To learn more or sign up as a volunteer, please email Mary-Floye Federer at mffederer@fpchouston.org.
- For other upcoming outreach opportunities to serve at FPC, go to <https://fpchouston.org/serve/ways-to-serve/upcoming-opportunities>.