

Discussion Guide

Series: Road Trip, wk3 Are We There Yet?

June 16, 2024



Big Idea

Our sinful nature and the fruit of the Spirit are in conflict with one another.



Icebreaker

Were you ever driven nuts on a road trip from the repetitive question of “are we there yet?”? When and if so, how did you deal with it?



Discussion Questions

1. Read Galatians 5:22-23. From this passage identify the 9 aspects (sanctification or holiness mile-markers, if you will) of the fruit of the Spirit. Of the 9, which do you feel you display rather well? Of the 9, which do you feel you could use some progress in?
2. Read Galatians 5:24-25. Here is verse 25 in the New Living Translation: *...follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. As we put our learnings & answers together from question 1 with this reading, what is the problem with the following mindset: “I am good with some/several of the aspects of the fruit but not others, so I am good.”?*
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-10. This passage lists the gifts of the Spirit, which are different from the fruit of the Spirit. How are they different, and specifically, when it comes to the array of them which you are to have/display, what is different? Why is this important to understand and delineate between?
4. Read Galatians 5:16-21. This could be referred to as a list of sinful “mile-markers”, if you will. Overall, the point when putting these readings from Galatians (Galatians 5:16-25) together is that our sinful nature and the fruit of the Spirit are in conflict with one another. As the list of sinful “mile-markers” were read, did your “check-engine light” come on? If so, with which aspects? What do you need to do with those particular aspects of your sinful nature?
5. Entire Sanctification (or Christian Perfection) comes down to confessing, repenting, and surrendering these areas of our life (in fact ALL areas of our life) to God's/the Holy Spirit's good work in us. A relatable John Wesley quote is this: *“By perfection (Christian Perfection) I mean the humble, gentle, patient love of God and our neighbor, ruling our tempers, words, and actions.”* So, it really comes down to what is driving us in each area of our lives. Is it the love of ourselves & our own pleasures OR is it the love of God & others? As you reflect on that and your own life, where do you fall short?
6. Overall, as you process the sanctification/holiness “mile-markers” (Galatians 5:22-23) & sinful nature “mile-markers” (Galatians 5:19-21), where are you currently on your journey of becoming more like Christ (sanctification/holiness)? What do you intend to do about your response?



Concluding Question

The sermon closed by encouraging us of two things. One, *shame is not of God*. And two, *accountability before others is one of the best tools to help us move forward on our journey of sanctification/holiness*. How best can you deal with any shame you may feel because of this convicting message? Who do you have in your life that you can share your struggles with? If you have no one, do you intend to address this and if so, when & how?



Prayer

Pray that you will be brave enough to visit these passages often to see any indicators on your “check engine light” and that you will be brave enough to seek and stay true to accountability in your life.