Discussion Questions
Freedom
Galatians 5:16-26

Ice Breaker Question(s)

1. What is the biggest change being a follower of Christ has made in your life or the life of someone close to you?

Read Galatians 5:16-18

1. According to this passage, what two natures are at work in each Christ-follower? What is the difference between the two?
2. How have you seen the war in your own life between flesh and Spirit?
3. If we are made alive in the Spirit, why do we still struggle with sin?
4. If Jesus + Nothing = Everything, why does Paul say that "you are not to do whatever you want"? (vs.17, NIV)
5. What does it mean that in the Spirit we are not under the law? (vs.18)

Read Galatians 5:19-21

1. Paul's list of "works of the flesh" include some behaviors (witchcraft, hatred, debauchery) that are what "bad people" do, but he also mentions behaviors and attitudes we all struggle with (selfish ambition, factions, envy). How do you account for the fact that all of these sins also occur among Christians?
2. Do you see any categories that this list of sins is divided into? What do you learn about the human heart from this list? What do you learn about yourself from this list?

Read Galatians 5:22-26

1. List the fruit of the Spirit one at a time (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control). Who comes to mind when you think of each one? Explain.
2. Which fruit of the Spirit do you think is most evident in your own life? Which is least?
3. Why does Paul say that there "is no law against these things?" (vs.23)
4. What does it mean to "nail the passions and desires" of the sinful nature to Jesus' cross? What does this look like in your own life?

Application and Prayer

1. There is often a tension between grace and truth, between the essentials and non-essentials. What are some ways we can balance love with our passion for the truth?

2. What do I need God to do **in me** or **through me** as a result of today's discussion?

3. Who do I need to pray for as a result of today's discussion?