**Small Group Talk Sheet**

**Galatians – Week 10: Wrapping It Up: Freedom or Destruction?**

**Galatians 5:16-25**

**Dave Wilde**

**Intro –** This week in worship, we had a chance to talk about the acts of the sinful nature and the fruit of the Spirit. One of the realities that Paul brings his letter to a close with is that there is a very real dividing line between those who are following their flesh and those who are walking in the Spirit. Recall that Paul referred to the “sinful list” as “acts” and the “Spirit filled list” as fruit. On the one side, you have those who are focused on their actions and what they can gain. On the other side, you have those who are focused on serving the Lord, which results in some really good stuff! Those who follow the Spirit experience real freedom and God grows real fruit in them. Those who focus on deeds and focus on what they do end up in destruction. Either way, life tends to plant seeds in our hearts and minds. Do we want those seeds to grow into destruction or into freedom?

**Notes – Using the following passages, read and discuss the questions at the bottom of the talk sheet.**

**Galatians 5:16-25 (NIV)**

16So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25

**Small Group Questions: Leader, please read the following questions and give everyone a chance to participate.**

1. As you read VV. 19-21, how do you see the acts described there as a reality in everyday life? What about in the church?
2. As you read VV. 22-25, how do you see those things growing in the lives of faithful people?
3. As you review the fruit of the Spirit, which one(s) do you feel strongest in? Which one(s) do you want to begin to grow in?