



Week of January 15th, 2017

Key Scripture:

Galatians 5:13–26 (ESV)

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. [...]

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

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Discussion Questions:

We may have come out of 2016 in several ways. We may have been fruitful or stagnant; celebrating or disappointed. Or maybe we’ve even backslidden in our faith. **How was 2016 for you?**

In 2016, which of the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23 did you feel God primarily grow you in?

In John 15 Jesus likens our relationship to cultivating a vineyard. **Have you recently found new ways to enrich this relationship?**

Out of John 15:1-16 Mike on Sunday said, “We cannot manufacture the fruit of the Spirit. How much are we trying to do in the church out of our own flesh?” **Recently have you seen something fail or struggle that could have gone much better? Why do we often slip back into trying to do spiritual work out of our own flesh?**

What spiritual work is God putting before you this year? Are these things possible within your own strength?

“The less you do in your own strength & the more you die to yourself, the more God can and will work through you.” **Is there a release of freedom knowing that God is calling us to a work that cannot be unaccomplished by us alone?**

Throughout Paul’s fathering input into Timothy we see Paul call Timothy to live and walk in a manor worthy of his calling. What is your calling and how does that effect your lifestyle? How does abiding in Christ cover much of that walk?

In one year when we look back and think about all that God has done in 2017, what do you think that testimony could look like from small to big?

This Friday, Saturday & Sunday we have David Hagger coming to minister prophetically at Oceanside. **Do you have any expectations about what God might do or say? What have you seen happen during these times previously?**