

PCC

8.16.20

- 1. What was the best part of your week? Worst part?**
- 2. How have you seen God move in your life this summer (answered prayers, unanswered prayers, etc)?**
- 3. Read Ephesians 3:20-21 — If you were to ask to do one big thing in your life, what would that be? What are some things that usually prevent you from asking God for big things?**
 - Ex) We don't believe we can actually change, we're too focused on changing others, we've tried and failed, etc
- 4. On Sunday we talked about the 4 ways we change the world and ourselves: Narrative, Practice, Community, and the Spirit. Which of these 4 ways do you struggle with the most?**
 - Narrative — we believe lies about who God is and who we are
 - Practice — we follow patterns of the World rather than the practices of Jesus
 - Community — we seek friends based on preference rather than community through covenant
 - Spirit — we're more influenced by our environment and the world around us than by the Holy Spirit
- 5. Read Psalm 51— Why is repentance so integral to the Christian faith? What happens when we leave out repentance as a daily practice? After reading Psalm 51, which request of David's do you identify with the most? Why?**
 - According to the title, David composed this psalm as a result of Nathan the prophet convicting him of his sins, both in his committing adultery with Bathsheba and in his arranging for the murder of Bathsheba's husband, Uriah the Hittite (2 Sam. 12:1–14).
 - At the same time, this is more than David's personal prayer: its instructional elements show that, though the situation that led to the psalm was intensely

personal, the psalm in its current form is well-suited to be a hymn by which the members of the worshipping congregation confess their own sins.

6. Read Galatians 5:16-26 — What does it mean to “walk by the Spirit” and how can we do that without relying on our works? What can you put into practice this week to “walk by the Spirit” and “be filled with the Spirit?”

- “Walk by the Spirit” implies both direction and empowerment; that is, making decisions and choices according to the Holy Spirit’s guidance, and acting with the spiritual power that the Spirit supplies. To “walk” in Scripture regularly represents the pattern of conduct of all of one’s life. The desires of the flesh would mean not just bodily cravings but all of the ordinary desires of fallen human nature.
- Paul acknowledges that the Christian life is a struggle—a war between the flesh and the Spirit.
- The verb “led” implies an active, personal involvement by the Holy Spirit in guiding Christians, and the present tense (“if you are being led ...”) indicates his ongoing activity. The Spirit’s active presence in believers’ lives shows that they are no longer under the pre-Christian system.

7. After this week’s sermon and study, what do you want to see God change in your own personal life? What would you want to see God change in our city and community through our church? How do you feel God encouraging you to be a part of that?

8. Spend some time praying for and encouraging one another.