

CHOOSE YOUR LIST

Galatians 5:16-26

How do we know if we're living the life God desires for us? The letter to the Galatians includes two lists in the fifth chapter. The first list shares what happens when we live according to our animal instincts, focusing on our need for self-preservation. The second list shares what happens (or what we experience) when we live according to the way of Jesus, focusing on the life God desires for us. The letter reflects Jesus' teaching to the disciples: "You'll know a tree by its fruit."

Monday: Read Galatians 1:1-10.

In what ways are you tempted to guide your life by values or priorities other than sharing the gracious love of Jesus?

Tuesday: Read Galatians 5:13-15.

How do you understand your free will? How is this freedom from God a gift? How do we sometimes misuse this freedom?

Wednesday: Read Galatians 5:16-18.

What does it mean to you to "walk by the Spirit" in your daily life and choices?

Thursday: Read Galatians 5:19-21.

What "temptations of the flesh" are most difficult for you to resist, or most likely to cause you to stumble?

Friday: Read Galatians 5:22-26.

How does your life produce the "fruits of the spirit"? What "spiritual fruit" would you like to cultivate more of in your life?

Saturday: Read Galatians 6:7-10.

In what ways would you like to grow in "doing good" in the year ahead as a response to God's love and an expression of the freedom God gives you.

SUMMARY

God offers us an invitation to choose how we live our lives. What word from these two lists would you like your life to reflect (or produce) in 2025? And what do you need to focus on in your life for that word to become part of your life?

You are free to choose what your life will produce.