

Life Group Questions – November 18, 2018
Victorious—Winning the Spiritual Battle
The Enemy Within

1. We have discussed three enemies of our faith that are battlegrounds: The devil and his demons, the world system and our fallen human nature. Which of these hinders you the most in your Christian life? Why is that the case?

2. The flesh is our fallen, rebellious human nature that resists God's will in our lives. It is hostile toward God and his agenda and is seen in sinful attitudes and behaviors. We can have a raging battle with the flesh internally. Read the list of sins of the flesh in Galatians 5:16-21. What kind of issues bring about a battle in your life? How would you describe the battle?

3. We are free from the power of sin through Jesus, but we can still be plagued by sins that have troubled us before and have been ingrained habits in our lives. We learned that we have been freed from the power and dominion of sin. Romans 6:6-7 says that having died to sin, it no longer has mastery over us and we no longer are required to serve sin. The reality is that before conversion we were obligated to serve sin. After conversion, it no longer owns us and we can refuse to obey sin and rather to obey God. How can that be empowering in your life?

4. Read Romans 13:11-14. Verse 14 tells us not to think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. Many translations have "make no provision for the flesh or sinful nature." How would a person not make provision to sin? How could the following people not make provision for the flesh? What practical strategies might they employ? A drug or alcohol abuser, someone hooked on pornography, a person with anger issues, a spouse or parent that is not adequately caring for their family, someone who is cheating on their taxes?

5. The goal of our lives should be to grow in our faith, to mature spiritually and become more like Jesus. Read Galatians 5:22-23. If we are walking or living in the power of the Holy Spirit we will exhibit the fruit of the Spirit. It is the opposite of the works of the flesh. Look over the list of characteristics. If you would focus on one of the fruit, which one would it be? Why?