

Message from God's Life-Giving Word

November 18, 2018

big CHURCH – big ANSWERS

The Impact of Christianity

Nature/Normal vs. Spirit/Gospel

* Nature/Normal is _____ !

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh... Now the works of the flesh are **evident**: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and **things like these**. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:16-21

* The Holy Spirit pushes _____ beyond _____

*But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is **no law**.* Galatians 5:22-23

* The message of the Church is superior to the message of _____ and of other _____

*And this is what God has testified; He has **given us eternal life**, and this life is in His Son.*

1 John 5:11

Next Steps

1. Journal about some distinct ways that the church has “Christianized” our culture? What would our culture look like if the church did not exist? Are there any differences in the way the church has shaped eastern vs western cultures?
2. Read Galatians 5. What examples can you give to support the argument that we are naturally bent toward sin? What is God's answer to this evident evil? How can you be a steward of not only the message of eternal life but also a steward of the message of a better life?
3. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is not only a message that saves people for eternal life, but a message that restores a broken world. It's a message that has shaped cultural values and national identities. With that in mind, it's time for the church to re-engage at every level because our message is a message of life. What is one way you can reengage this week?

REMEMBER: *Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.*