

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## WHY CHRISTIANS MUST PURSUE HOLINESS

Galatians 5:16-26

Sola Fide (Galatians) — Week 12

**ICEBREAKER:** What's your favorite holiday tradition? What meaning does it have for you?

**OVERVIEW:** The Galatian churches faced two big problems: Legalism and libertinism. On the one hand, some were relying upon the law for salvation instead of on Christ alone. On the other hand, some were rejecting the law altogether and embracing a life of sin. In Galatians 5:16-26, Paul address the latter problem of libertinism and explains why Christians must pursue holiness. In this discussion we will go deeper with the call to holiness.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. What does it mean that God is holy?
3. Why is it a good thing that God is holy?
4. Do all Christians need to pursue the same level of holiness, or are some Christians called to a higher standard? Explain.
5. Read Romans 12:1-2.
  - a. What should our motive for holiness be?
  - b. What does it mean to present your body as a living sacrifice?
  - c. What kind of sacrifice must we present?

- d. How do we know what holy and pleasing conduct look like?
  - e. Why is it important in the pursuit of holiness to not be conformed to this age?
  - f. How can we avoid being conformed to this age?
  - g. What is the key to being transformed into a holy person?
  - h. How can you renew your mind?
  - i. In the pursuit of holiness, why is it important to remember that God's will is good, pleasing, and perfect?
6. Refer to Sunday's sermon.
    - a. What is the flesh?
    - b. What reasons does Paul give for pursuing holiness in Galatians 5:16-26?
    - c. What does it mean to "keep in step with the Spirit" (verse 25)?

**The Last Word:** "Diligence in using the means of grace is the prime secret of deepening holiness and ongoing usefulness." J.I. Packer

