

What's happening at Desert Breeze?

- **THANKSGIVING BOXES:** A Great Big Thank You to all who participated & for being a blessing this holiday season!!
- **LADIES BOOK CLUB:** Ladies – grab the book “In Harm’s Way” by Irene Hannon. Read it & meet with us tomorrow **Mon, Nov 16th, 7pm** to chat about it! Call Kathy @ 602-439-1623 for directions!
- **GRIEFSHARE: SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS:** Are you dreading the holidays knowing everything has changed because of the loss of a loved one? Join us as we offer you help and hope as you navigate through the Holiday Season. ***This Tuesday, November 17, 7:00pm at the church offices. Sign up now!***
- **DYNAMIC DUO NIGHT:** This is our Children’s Ministry Bring a Friend Night – 1st thru 6th graders come celebrate the season of Thanksgiving **Friday, Nov 20th, 6pm to 8pm.** \$3 pizza & drink!
- **LADIES CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION DINNER:** Ladies mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 6th, 5:00pm!** Tickets are \$15 per person and include dinner and all the festivities! Purchase your tickets now at the Women’s Ministry table!
- **LADIES CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION HELP:** If you’d like to host a table, help set up or clean up – please sign up! ☺
- **FIT 4 LIFE EXERCISE:** Join us for “Re-fit” exercise, **first 3 Saturdays of the month at 8am** at the church. This class is for women of any age, size or fitness level! Come have fun getting fit!
- **THE COMMUNITY:** If you are a 20-something young adult and want to get connected – join us **Weds 8:30pm** in suite 106!

Check out our website @ dbcc.com for more info & events

or call the church office 602-374-4588

Wifi info: DB Guest Password: dbguest1

Teaching Series: **“FREEDOM”**

(For Freedom Christ has set us Free-Gal5:1)

There is no greater feeling on earth than being FREE! Ask anyone who has stepped out of prison or broken free from oppression or has kicked an enslaving addiction. With confident expectation they begin a new life. Even more freedom and joy beyond words, are those who have experienced the message found in the New Testament letter of Galatians.

Nov 21/22	“Gospel Character 2”	Galatians 5:16-25
Nov 28/29	“Gospel Relationships 1”	Galatians 5:26-6:5
Dec 05/06	“Gospel Relationships 2”	Galatians 6:1-5

Thank You for the consistent and faithful giving of our church family.

Budget Results for Nov 8

General Giving

Budget \$17,500 Actual \$27,153

November 14/15, 2015

FREEDOM

(For FREEDOM Christ has set us free! Gal 5:1)

November 14/15, 2015

Sermon Notes

Ray Davis

“Gospel Character1” Galatians 5:16-25

In the first half of chapter 5, we learned that Christian freedom gives us a whole new motivation for living. In normal religion, the motivation for morality is fear and/or pride. In gospel Christianity, the motivation is a heart captivated by Christ's love (5:6, 14). In this passage we learn how to grow in character through this new dynamic of love.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS A BATTLE:

- 1) Our flesh (sinful nature) was there, ruling alone and unopposed, before we were Christians. We are sinners by _____ & by _____. (Rom3:23; Eph2:3; Rom5:12-21)
- 2) The _____ our lives supernaturally when we first became Christians and has begun a work of whole life transformation. (John14:16-17, 16:7-15; 1Cor3:16)
- 3) The battle is between _____ of the Spirit and the flesh. At any point in our life we will “live by” one, and “not gratify” the other. Vv16, 24; Rom7:22-23; Eph4:22-24 “old self” vs. “new self”.

THE NATURE OF THIS BATTLE:

- 1) The biggest problem with our flesh is not that we desire bad things, but _____ good things that become our self-righteousness. v16 & v24 Desires = Gr. “epithumia” means an over-desire, an inordinate desire, an all-controlling drive and longing. (Eph.2:3, 4:22; I Pet.2:11, 4:2; I John 2:16; James 1:14)
- 2) The Holy Spirit desires for us to _____, _____ and _____ the beauty and glory of who Christ is and what He has done to give us a perfect righteousness. V17 “the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh” John16:14; Eph5:18; Rom1:16-17
- 3) Anything that becomes more _____ to your imagination & more _____ & _____ to your heart than Christ is an over-desire that will inevitably produce the works of the flesh. v16 “Walk by the Spirit” vs. “not gratify the desires of the flesh” v18 “Led by the Spirit” vs. “not under law” v24 “Those who belong to Christ...” vs. “Crucified the flesh...”

THE WORKS OF THE FLESH (SINFUL NATURE): Vv19-21

- ✓ Sexual immorality – “porneia” – all illicit sexual activity including (but not limited to) adultery, premarital sex, homosexuality, bestiality, incest, and prostitution.
- ✓ Impurity – “akatharsia” – unclean sexual motives, language, innuendoes and jokes with double sexual meaning.
- ✓ Sensuality – “aselgia” – Open & excessive indulgence in sexual sins. The person has no sense of shame or restraint. Product of 1st two.

- ✓ Idolatry – “eidololatria” – anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God. Counterfeit gods.
- ✓ Sorcery – “pharmakeia” – counterfeiting the works of the Spirit. through the use of mood or mind altering drugs along with witchcraft & occult practices.
- ✓ Enmity (Hatred) – “echthrai” – hostility, a bitter or adversarial attitude.
- ✓ Jealousy – “zelos” – the zeal & energy that comes from a hungry ego.
- ✓ Rivalries – “eritheia” – competitiveness, a self-seeking.
- ✓ Envy – “phthonoi” – coveting, a desire for what others have.
- ✓ Strife (Discord) – “eris” – argumentative, “fight-picking” behavior.
- ✓ Fits of anger – “thumoi” – outbursts of anger.
- ✓ Dissensions – “dichostaiai” – strong disagreements and quarrels
- ✓ Divisions – “aireseis” – permanent parties, warring factions & cliques.
- ✓ Drunkenness – “methai” – excessive use of wine and strong drink.
- ✓ Orgies – “komoi” – drunken, carousing parties often filled with sexual promiscuity.
- ✓ And things like these – etc. – this list is by no means complete.

THE KEY TO WINNING THE BATTLE: vv24-25

- 1) Which works of the flesh (sinful nature) do you see in your life?
- 2) What are the over-desires that are at the root of these attitudes and actions?
- 3) How will you preach the Gospel of grace and acceptance to yourself to undermine these over-desires?

We must worship Christ, with the help of the Holy Spirit, adoring Him until our hearts find Him more beautiful than the object (over-desires) we feel we can't live without.

Growing Notes

- 1) What is character? How is character (fruit) different from charisma (gifts)? Why do you think character change is so hard? If you could change one character trait about yourself what would it be?
- 2) Read Galatians 5:16-25. What stands out to you? What is the difference between character change motivated by fear and/or pride vs. a heart captivated by Christ's love (5:6, 14, 24)? Why is spiritual growth a battle? What is the nature of the battle?
- 3) Review the list of the works of the flesh. What is the key to winning this battle (vv24-25)? Answer the three questions at the end of the sermon notes. Pray that you learn to worship Christ, with the help of the Holy Spirit, adoring Him until your heart finds Him more beautiful than the object (over-desires) you feel you can't live without.