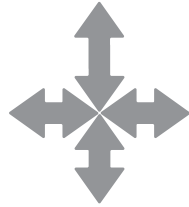




## GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of November 4th

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.



**UP:** growing in relationship with God

**IN:** growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

**OUT:** growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission

### Get Started:

What sorts of qualities do you want to be known for? When people describe you to their friends, what would you like them to say about you?



**UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word**

Read aloud the passages for the week: Galatians 5:22-6:3. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful.

1. In the list of the nine "fruit of the Spirit," which ones would most likely be used to describe you? Which sound the least like you?
2. What comes to mind when you think of gentleness? Is it something you strive for? Or do you tend to view gentleness as weakness? Why?
3. Paul warns the Galatian church against becoming conceited and against envy. One of the keys to combating these things is fostering genuine humility. What other tactics help in overcoming vanity and jealousy?
4. It's been said that humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less. What do you think about this definition? Would you add anything to this definition?
5. Re-read 6:3. How can we pursue humility in our lives? What tangible steps could we take to develop a humble spirit (in our home lives, our work lives, etc.)?



### **IN: Connect with Each Other**

In Galatians 6:2 Paul encourages us to fulfill Christ's law by carrying each other's burdens. Share prayer requests around the circle and consider what burdens exist within your group. How could your group participate in helping carry these burdens for one another?



### **Out: : Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)**

As our church focuses on "gentleness" in the coming weeks, brainstorm ways in which your group could practice gentleness with those around you. What would it look like to be a group that is "gentle" with those outside your circle?

<sup>1</sup> Kevin DeYoung, *The Good News We Almost Forgot* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2010), 208-209.

<sup>2</sup> William T. Cavanaugh, *Being Consumed*, (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008), 36.

<sup>3</sup> St. Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions*, trans. Henry Chadwick (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991), 16.