

## THE BIG IDEA

- Pursuing God though the law is our default. But it always leads to defeat.

## GET STARTED

- Growing up, were you a rule-follower or a rule-breaker? How did your reaction to rules affect your relationships with your parents and siblings?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*How deep do you want to take your Group? Choose from these questions to lead your discussion.*

1. Did your family go to church when you were growing up? Was the experience more about following Jesus or obeying rules? How has that influenced your current view of church?
2. Take turns reading Romans 8:1-11. If verse 1 says there is no condemnation for believers, why do we feel condemned sometimes?
3. When verse 6 says to be carnally minded is death, what could this mean? Read verse 11 again, what could it mean for the spirit to give life to our "mortal bodies?"
4. Have a new person read Galatians 5:16-26. How have you experienced this battle between flesh and Spirit in your own life?
5. Why does Paul describe what God does through us as fruit?
6. Have you ever experienced God producing something naturally through your life before? As opposed to you making something happen yourself? Explain
7. Does living free from sin by walking with Jesus seem attainable? What can this group do to help you begin to approach your relationship with God from the perspective of following instead of obeying rules?
8. Ben mentioned that following a list can seem easier than walking in step with Jesus, how is this possible?
9. Discuss your groups plans for helping with Halloweentown. Games to help run, supplies to give, setup of cleanup participation.
10. Finalize your groups OUTREACH IDEA for this semester.

## FOR FURTHER READING

- John 15:5-8
- New Memory verse: Romans 8:1- "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."
- Leaders read and rehearse with the group. Challenge them to write it on a postcard or place it in a spot they will see it every day.
- Follow up the next week to see if they did!