

# Growth Group Bible Study – May 17<sup>th</sup>

## Start the Conversation

In Pastor Wade's introduction this week, he mentioned the movie villain, Darth Vader, and the ominous music that is played every time he enters a scene in *Star Wars*. **If there was a soundtrack for your life, what music would be played to announce your arrival? Why?**

Beyond "The Imperial March" from *Star Wars*, he also mentioned the theme music from *Jaws* and how that music score builds up the tension in the minds of the viewers. We don't have a soundtrack for our lives to do this for us, but there are some mental and physical things that happen to us when we feel threatened. **What does that look like for you? How do you respond—mentally and physically—when facing a stressful or dangerous situation?**

## Turn to the Bible

Read 1 John 2:12-14. **What are the three encouraging reminders found in these verses?**

Read 1 John 2:15-17. **What are the three starting points of sin in a person's life?**

In Galatians 5:19-21, Paul provides us with a list of sinful behaviors that are the natural result of giving in to the desires of the flesh. Read through this list and think about these questions. **Do any of these sinful behaviors exist in your life? If so, are you ready to let the Holy Spirit guide your life?**

In the next verses, Paul describes a life that is "in step" with the Spirit. Read Galatians 5:22-23. **On a scale of 1-10, how well is your life characterized by these nine qualities? What do you need to do this week in order to raise that score by a couple of points?**

Pastor Wade mentioned Jesus' teaching about the "eye" in Matthew 6. In a parallel passage, Luke records this same concept in a little different way. Read Luke 11:33-36. **What does Jesus say about the influence a person's eyes have on their manner of life?**

Read Luke 8:16-17. Again in this passage, Jesus is teaching about light. Luke 8:16 is almost identical to Luke 11:33. **What additional information do we learn in Luke 8:17 about the effect of light in a person's life? How does this change the way you look at hidden sin in your life?**

## Make a Plan

**Make a list of all the things you see in a week's time that fills your life with darkness. What can you do this week to avoid those sinful things and replace them healthy (holy) things?**

Close in prayer. Be sure to spend some time "agreeing" with God about the sin in your life (aka repent).