



## Discussion Guide for “The Gardener!”

### *Winds of Change Week 5*

God calls us to be loving, joyful, peace-making, patient, kind, generous, gentle, faithful and self-controlled. This list of virtues is as inspiring as it is intimidating. Which of us can say we’re any of these, let alone all of them? Paul’s letter to the Galatians reveals how we come to embody these virtues: not by working at them, but by giving the Spirit space to change us.

#### **Scriptures for Further Reading**

[Galatians 5:16-23](#)

[Galatians 3:1-5](#)

[John 20:19-22](#)

#### **Passage for Sacred Reading:**

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week’s sacred reading is [Galatians 5:16-23](#).

#### **Questions for Discussion**

1. Which fruit of the Spirit resonate most with you? Which are the most intimidating?
2. What is the significance of Paul calling these the fruit of the Spirit rather than works in the Spirit?
3. Why were the Galatian Christians’ choices making Paul so angry? What was at stake for him?
4. Why are spiritual practices so challenging for us? What does it mean to measure by the fruit of our lives, rather than by the practices we do?
5. What practices help you make space for the Spirit? What can you do this week?