



WELCOME

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Guide to life

Don't do whatever you want



In 2013, Miley Cyrus came out with a song called “**We Can't Stop**” with the following lyrics

*It's our party we can do what we want*

*It's our party we can say what we want*

*It's our party we can love who we want*

Repeated throughout the chorus is the line:

*Doing whatever we want*

Wouldn't that be nice? It is possible.....as long as you don't care about the consequences.

## ✔ Do what you want



Miley's philosophy doesn't work, because it is selfish and someone always ends up paying the price. Think about it. If you do whatever you want, then someone else doesn't get to do what they want to do.

If everyone did what Miley said – “Doing whatever we want” – nobody would be happy.

Miley's philosophy is a little short-sighted.

## ✔ Do what God wants



The Bible offers something a little less popular but 100 percent true. It's up to you to decide which philosophy to follow: POPULAR or...TRUTH.



*So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. (Galatians 5:16-17)*

Compare that wisdom to Miley's "do what we want, say what we want, love who we want" mantra.

Imagine going through life doing exactly what you feel like at any moment, saying whatever you want, loving whomever you feel like loving at that moment.

### ✔ Go ahead and answer



- What are the consequences you might face if you do whatever you want?
- What are the consequences if you say whatever you want?
- What happens if people live however they want?
- What does Paul the apostle offer in Galatians as an alternative way to live?

### ✔ Final thoughts



Miley's song isn't the first song to talk about doing "whatever feels good" at that moment. Sadly this philosophy doesn't work. It is selfish, it hurts others, and it eventually hurts us.

God offers us so much more when we depend on His Spirit to guide our lives. Paul shows us what our lives will produce when we let the Holy Spirit control us:



*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)*

It's up to you. You can take the selfish and lonely path, which leads to hurt all round, or you can take the Spirit-led path, allowing God to control your thinking, which results in love, joy peace, and all those fruits of the spirit.

Which end result sounds better to you?

Youth department of St Marks Congregational Church | Teen Church 9:30-10:30 | Contact:

[Darrenb@stmarks.org.za](mailto:Darrenb@stmarks.org.za) 079 743 3035

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