



Walking by the Spirit

CONNECT - GROW - ENGAGE

Paul's Struggle

Romans 7:15, 19-20

¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate..... ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

Paul's Deliverance

Romans 7:24–8:2

²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. ¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Paul's Discovery

To overcome sin and to experience life change, we must live by the power of God's Spirit.

Galatians 5:16-25

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:16-25

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Galatians 5:16-25

²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Desires in Conflict

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Works vs Fruit

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Choice #1 - License

License – I'll do what I want.

Romans 6:1–3

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Choice #2 - Legalism

Legalism: Following a list of “dos” and “don’ts” becomes our identity.

Our lists never work.

Selective Lists....

Still Powerless to Really Change!

Choice #3 – Be Led by God's Spirit

A Promise:

Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and **you will not** gratify the desires of the flesh.

Walk by the Spirit (v16)

Led by the Spirit (v18)

Live by the Spirit (v25)

Keep in Step with the Spirit (v25)

How to Be Filled with God's Spirit



Surrender – we must surrender control of our lives.

Invite – The fullness of the Spirit is a gift.

Depend – We can't do it on our own.