

The Life of a Disciple: Spirit Lead

Scripture Focus: Galatians 5:16–26

Opening Thought

The life of a disciple is one led by the Holy Spirit. Every day, we face a battle within between the desires of our flesh and the will of the Spirit. When we surrender to the Spirit's leading, we begin to reflect Christ's character and bear fruit that points others to Him.

1. The Battle Within

Read: Galatians 5:16–21

- 1 What does Paul mean when he says, "Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives"?
- 2 How do you personally see the tension between your flesh and the Spirit's leading?
- 3 In what areas of your life do you feel this "battle within" most strongly?

Key Truth: The flesh (Greek: *sarx*) represents our human nature apart from God—prone to sin and self-centered desires.

2. How Do We Deal With This?

Read the following passages:

- 1 Psalm 51:5 — Sin happens to us first.
- 2 John 3:14–21 — Christ happened for us.
- 3 2 Corinthians 5:21 — Christ handled sin for us.
- 4 Ephesians 2:10 — God did it for a purpose.
- 1 What does each of these passages reveal about God's response to sin?
- 2 How does understanding Christ's finished work change the way you deal with temptation?
- 3 What purpose does God have in freeing us from sin's control?

3. This Is Where the Cross Comes In

Read: Galatians 5:24–26

- 1 What does it mean that our sinful nature was 'nailed to the cross'?
- 2 How can you practically 'follow the Spirit's leading' in every part of your life?
- 3 How can the cross become your daily reminder of freedom and fruitfulness?

Key Truth: Christ died not only to save you but to empower you to live Spirit-led.

4. The Fruit of the Spirit

Read: Galatians 5:22–23

- 1 Which fruit of the Spirit is most visible in your life right now?
- 2 Which fruit do you feel God is developing in you through your current season?
- 3 How can others experience Christ through the 'fruit' your life produces?

Reminder: "Only apples make apple juice." What's inside you will come out.

5. Activation & Application

- 1 Take time this week to invite the Holy Spirit into a specific area of struggle or decision.
- 2 Pray daily: "Holy Spirit, lead me today. Help me to walk by the Spirit, not by the flesh."
- 3 Share one testimony next week of how you recognized the Spirit's leading in your daily life.

Closing Prayer

Lord, thank You for giving us Your Spirit to guide, convict, and empower us. Help us to crucify our flesh daily, walk in freedom, and bear fruit that glorifies You. May our lives reflect Your love and truth wherever we go. Amen.