

GALATIANS

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

GETTING TO KNOW THE SPIRIT



Ps 139:7 “Where shall I go from your Spirit?

Or where shall I flee from your presence?”

Heb 9:14 “how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.”



Be still,
and know
that I am
God:
Psalm 46:10

1) Creating new desires – he changes our inner wants to align with God's.

- **Internal War:** Gal 5:17 states the Spirit and the flesh are in constant opposition.
- **Desire Shift:** The Spirit makes worldly desires lose their appeal over time.
- **New Affections:** He cultivates a genuine love for righteousness, prayer, and scripture.

2) By Producing Spiritual Fruit

The Spirit crowds out the "works of the flesh" by growing godly character traits from the inside out.

- **The List:** He produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- **Displacement:** As these fruits grow, they naturally replace fleshly habits like anger, jealousy, and lust.
- **Dependence:** This fruit cannot be forced by human willpower; it only grows through relying on the Spirit.

3. By Granting Power to Kill Sin

The HS provides the specific strength needed to actively subdue sinful habits.

- **Mortification**: Ro 8:13 instructs believers to "put to death the deeds of the body" by the Spirit.
- **Willpower vs. Spirit**: Human willpower eventually fails, but the Spirit provides supernatural endurance.
- **Sustained Victory**: He gives the strength to say "no" to temptation in moments of weakness

1 Cor 10:13 "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it". Truth?

4. By Renewing the Mind

The flesh often gains ground through corrupt thoughts, which the Holy Spirit actively retrains.

- **Truth Weapon:** The Spirit uses the Bible—called the "sword of the Spirit"—to expose lies.
- **Perspective Shift:** He reminds believers of their true identity as children of God, not slaves to sin.
- **Conviction:** He provides a gentle, internal warning when thoughts or actions begin to drift toward the flesh.

1. Surrender Control Each Morning

Yield your agenda, desires, and will to God before your day begins.

- **Daily Offering:** Treat each morning as a fresh start to present your body as a living sacrifice (Ro 12:1).
- **Prayer of Submission:** Ask the Holy Spirit to take the driver's seat of your life for the day.
- **Relinquish Rights:** Give up your right to handle things in your own strength or anger.

2. Feed Your Mind with Scripture

The Holy Spirit uses God's Word to direct you, so you must fill your mind with it.

- **The Spirit's Weapon:** The Bible is called the "sword of the Spirit" (Eph 6:17).
- **Aligning Thoughts:** Reading Scripture programs your mind to recognize what the Spirit wants.
- **Filter Reality:** Use biblical truth to instantly test whether an impulse is from your flesh or God.

3. Maintain Continuous Prayer

Develop an ongoing, conversational prayer life throughout your workday and routines.

- **Breath Prayers:** Utter short, internal prayers during stressful moments (e.g., "Lord, give me patience right now").
- **Constant Connection:** Shift from praying only during set times to keeping an open line of communication.
- **Immediate Help:** Tap into His strength the very second you feel tempted or overwhelmed.

4. Obey Promptings Immediately

Act quickly when the HS convicts you or nudges you to do good.

- **Do Not Quench**: Avoid ignoring or suppressing the Spirit's voice (1 Thes 5:19).
- **Confess Fast**: AGREE! When you realize you have sinned, repent and move on.
- **Step Out**: If you feel a nudge to encourage someone or be generous, act on it without delaying.

5. Pivot When Tempted

When your flesh flares up, actively shift your focus away from the temptation and toward Christ.

- **Starve the Flesh:** Do not try to argue with a temptation; physically or mentally remove yourself from it.
- **Look for the Escape:** Believe God's promise that He always provides a way out of temptation (1 Cor 10:13).
- **Replace the Thought:** Focus your mind on something pure, excellent, and praiseworthy instead. (Phil 4:8)

Gal 5:16-18 “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 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. But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law.”



What
Does It
Really
Mean

to Walk
in the
Spirit?

James Holland, Sr.

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