

## LIVING IN THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

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Pastor Bob Carvalho—Galatians 5:16-24

<sup>16</sup> So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. <sup>17</sup> The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. <sup>18</sup> But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses.

<sup>19</sup> When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

<sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there.

1) **YIELDING** to the Spirit enables believers to triumph over the flesh and the law (5:16–18).

-A Christian is not a person who has no evil desires. A Christian is a person who is *at war* with those desires.

-If the Christian life looks too hard, we must remember that we are not called to live it by ourselves. We must live it by the Spirit of God.

2) The **CONSEQUENCES** of life in the flesh and life in the Spirit are easy to discern (5:19–23).

-We must not miss the fact that the main point is not the avoidance of sin, but rather *alignment* with the Spirit.

The vice list is now contrasted with a virtue list. The list has no discernible order apart from love appearing first. But the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT is :

*Love -*

*Joy -*

*Peace -*

*Patience -*

*Kindness -*

*Goodness -*

*Faithfulness -*

*Gentleness -*

*Self-control -*

3) Those who belong to Christ have put to **DEATH** the desires of the flesh (5:24).

- The flesh is as good as dead. Its doom is sure, but there are pockets of resistance. The guerrillas of the flesh will not lay down their arms and must be fought back *daily*.

### THE BIG QUESTION IS, *HOW* DO YOU WALK BY THE SPIRIT?

**First**, Galatians 5:6 “In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any avail, but **FAITH** working through love.”

**Second**, notice Galatians 5:5 “For through the *Spirit*, by **FAITH**, we wait for the hope of righteousness.”

**Third**, look at Galatians 3:22 “Now before **FAITH** came, we were confined under the law.”

**Fourth**, see Galatians 3:5 the clearest of all: “Does He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing of **FAITH**?”

**Finally**, consider Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by **FAITH** in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me.”