

# Walking by the Spirit

**Galatians 5:16–18**

**"Walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh."**

# Justification and Sanctification

- Jesus Christ is the source of our justification.
- The Holy Spirit is the source of our sanctification.
- We cannot live the Christian life in our own strength.
- The Spirit empowers believers to live holy lives.

*"The Christian life is lived under the direction and power of the Holy Spirit."*

# Walking by the Spirit

**Galatians 5:16–18**

**The Command**

**The Conflict**

**The Commitment**

# The Command

## "Walk by the Spirit..."

- "Walk" is a present imperative.
- It describes a continual lifestyle.
- It is a command, not a suggestion.
- Walking implies spiritual growth and progress.

## Walking by the Spirit Means

- Daily dependence upon the Holy Spirit.
- Obedience to God's Word.
- Following Christ's example.
- Living under God's direction.
- Growing toward Christlikeness.
- **Colossians 3:16**  
*"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly."*

# Walking Is Not Passive

- Christian living is NOT:  
"Let go and let God."  
Passive surrender.  
Spiritual laziness.
- The New Testament commands believers to:  
Run the race.  
Fight the good fight.  
Put off the old man.  
Put on the new man.

Hebrews 12:1–3  
1 Corinthians 9:24–27  
Ephesians 4:22–25

# Our Responsibility

Believers are called to:

- Consider themselves dead to sin.
  - Refuse sin's control.
  - Present themselves to God.
  - Walk in righteousness.
  - The Spirit supplies the power.  
We supply willing obedience.
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- Romans 6:11–13

# The Conflict

## **Galatians 5:17**

- "The flesh sets its desire against the Spirit..."

- The Christian life is spiritual warfare.

- There is continual conflict between:

The Flesh

The Holy Spirit

# What Is the Flesh?

- The flesh is:
- Our fallen human nature.
- The old sinful tendencies.
- That which opposes God's Spirit.

Romans 7:18–23

- Paul experienced this struggle personally.

## The Inner Battle:

The Flesh Wants:

- Pride
- Lust
- Selfishness
- Anger
- Worldliness

The Spirit Produces:

- Holiness
- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Obedience

# Victory Is Possible

Romans 8:2

"The law of the Spirit of life has set you free."

Victory comes through:

- Walking by the Spirit
- Avoiding temptation
- Prayer
- Feeding God's Word
- Obedience

Romans 13:14

Colossians 3:5

2 Timothy 2:3-4

# The Commitment

## **Galatians 5:18**

- The Spirit leads.
- We choose to follow.
- Christian maturity requires commitment.

# God's Part / Our Part

## God's Part

- Gives His Spirit.
- Gives His power.
- Gives His promises.
- Gives everything needed for godliness.

## Our Part

- Faith
- Obedience
- Diligence
- Submission
- 2 Peter 1:3–8

# Following the Spirit

Romans 8:14

Those led by the Spirit are the children of God.

Being led means:

- Following His leadership.
- Trusting His guidance.
- Obeying His Word.
- Yielding every area of life.

# Application

Ask yourself daily:

- Am I feeding my flesh or my spirit?
- Am I obeying the Holy Spirit?
- Am I making provision for sin?
- Am I growing spiritually?
- Choose daily to walk by the Spirit.

# Three Truths

## **The Command**

Walk by the Spirit.

## **The Conflict**

The flesh wars against the Spirit.

## **The Commitment**

Choose daily to follow the Holy Spirit.

**"Walking by the Spirit is not perfection—it is a daily direction of dependence, obedience, and surrender to the Holy Spirit."**