

Fruit of the Spirit Series: **Works & Desire**

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 07/14/2019



I. **Tension**

II. **The Way We Walk**

Galatians 5:16-24

v. 16-18

Desires of the Flesh & Spirit

v. 19-21

The Works of the Flesh

v. 22-24

The Fruit of the Spirit

III. **Being Led by the Spirit**

Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you regularly experience the tension between the desires of the flesh and the desires of the Spirit. The struggle is an unavoidable consequence of being a human being whom the Holy Spirit is endeavoring to transform and mature. It can be daunting at times to feel pulled in multiple directions, but thankfully the situation is far from being hopeless. The Holy Spirit is always ready and able to lead those who are willing.

Because the desires of the flesh and the Spirit cannot peaceably coexist, one must daily choose whom to follow—themselves or God. God has given you the capacity to feel desire and He likewise provides the means for your desires to be satisfied within the bounds of righteousness. Knowing how and when to partake of those means is perceived and understood through a relationship with Jesus Christ. He is altogether familiar with the burden and struggle of being human. He deeply cares for you in every way. Your mental, physical and spiritual well-being are all important components of His plan for your life.

Will you allow God to meet your needs in His way and in His perfect timing? Will you allow the Holy Spirit to bind and disarm the crippling control fleshly desires? Are you ready for God to unleash blessings in your life through the blossoming of the fruit of His Holy Spirit?

Prayerfully ask God to restrain the fleshly desires that seek to distract you from the leading of His Spirit. Meditate on the present leading of the Holy Spirit in your life. Ask God to show you how the fruit of His Spirit can bring tremendous blessing to you and those with whom you interact each day. Commit to be more intentional about being led by the Spirit in the days ahead.