

# WALKING BY THE SPIRIT

Let the Spirit lead you.

Galatians 5:13-26 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. <sup>14</sup> For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>15</sup> If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

<sup>16</sup> So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. NIV

Simple take-aways:

- You have a choice: Called to be free. How do you want to use your freedom?
- Choose wisely:
  - You *shouldn't* choose the flesh.
  - You *should* choose the Spirit.

What are we choosing?

“To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be controlled and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We cannot have two masters. Either Christ or Self is on the throne or control center of our lives. In essence, the Christian life is simply the act of keeping Christ on the throne.”

- Bill Bright (1921-2003, Founder of Campus Crusade)

“Christ is on the throne of our lives when we walk in the control and power of the Holy Spirit, for the Holy Spirit came for the express purpose of glorifying Christ in the believer's life.”

- Bill Bright (1921-2003, Founder of Campus Crusade)

Ephesians 5:15-18 So be careful how you live; *be mindful of your steps*. Don't run around like idiots *as the rest of the world does*. Instead, walk as the wise! <sup>16</sup> Make the most of every *living and breathing* moment because these are evil times. <sup>17</sup> So understand *and be confident in* God's will, and don't live thoughtlessly. <sup>18</sup> Don't drink wine excessively. The drunken path *is a reckless path*. It leads nowhere. Instead, let God fill you with the Holy Spirit. VOICE

**Don't take flesh breaks.**

Romans 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. ESV

Proverbs 25:28 Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control. NIV

**Listen to the Spirit inside you.**

Romans 8:9 But you are not controlled by your sinful nature [your flesh]. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) NLT

John 16:7 [Jesus said,] “But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate[/Helper/Comforter] will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.” NIV

Deuteronomy 11:10-12 The land where you're going to live when you cross *the Jordan* isn't like the land of Egypt where you came from. When you sowed seeds there, you could water all of your land as if it were nothing more than a *small* vegetable garden, transporting the water yourselves. <sup>11</sup> But in the land where you're going to live, the hills and valleys drink water right out of the sky! <sup>12</sup> He takes care of this land; He's always looking after it, all throughout the year. VOICE