

A WALKING IN THE SPIRIT. Galatians 5:16, 18.

- ❖ What does it mean to “walk” in God’s ways in the Bible (Deuteronomy 13: 4-5; Romans 13: 13; Colossians 1: 10)?
- ❖ God’s will is explained in the Bible so we can “walk” in it. That involves keeping the Ten Commandments and other rules that help us live like God wants us to.
- ❖ Nevertheless, keeping those commandments to be saved is not the Way. What God already did is the only way to save us.

B THE CHRISTIAN’S CONFLICT. Galatians 5:17.

- ❖ We receive a new nature when we accept Jesus’ sacrifice. That’s a spiritual nature that conflicts with the “flesh” nature (Romans 7:14-25).
- ❖ We must choose to follow the Spirit and to cling to His powerful hand every day.

C THE WORKS OF THE FLESH. Galatians 5:19-21.

- ❖ Paul compares living by the flesh to living by the Spirit. There are important differences between the two:
 - The first is about “works”, the second is about “fruit”.
 - (1) The flesh demands our sins and forces us to sin.
 - (2) The Spirit produces a holy behavior in us.
 - “Works” is plural but “fruit” is singular.
 - (1) The sinful nature causes division, confusion and disunity.
 - (2) The spiritual nature encourages unity.
- ❖ Sin breaks human relationships and produces pain. The Spirit restores our relationships and produces eternal life.

D THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT. Galatians 5:22-23.

- ❖ Love is first in the fruit of the Spirit, and all the rest of the virtues come from it.
- ❖ Love is the virtue that sums up the Ten Commandments (Matthew 22:35-40).
- ❖ Love opposes to man’s sinful nature. That’s why love is the main emblem of those who follow God.

E LIVING BY THE SPIRIT. Galatians 5:24-26.

- ❖ In Galatians 5:16-26, Paul used five verbs to explain how we are led by the Spirit.
 - To walk [*peripateō*] (v. 16): We must walk with Jesus every day, living with Him.
 - To be led (v. 18): We must let the Spirit lead us and show us where to go and what to do.
 - To crucify (v. 24): We must kill our flesh nature and feed our spiritual nature.
 - To live (v. 25): We must be born again every day.
 - To walk [*stoicheō*] (v. 25): We must follow in the Spirit’s footsteps and let Him guide our lives.