

“WALK THIS WAY”
Galatians 5:16-26
Holy Spirit Series Week 3

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Keith Maurer

Background/Context

Gospel of grace defended (1-2)
Gospel of grace explained (3-4)
Gospel of grace applied (5-6)

A Defense of Christian Liberty

Freedom from bondage to the Law (5:1-12)
Freedom from bondage of living to please yourself (5:13-15)
Freedom from bondage to old sinful nature (5:16-26)

Big Idea: Walking by the Spirit involves yielding to and following the Holy Spirit’s lead in my life.

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. (Gal 5:16-26)

Principle stated (16)

- Walk by the spirit
- Gratify the desires of the flesh.

Principle Explained (17-18)

- Ongoing conflict

¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. (Ez. 36:26-27)

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. (Romans 8:5-6)

- Lead by Spirit

“The Spirit is not a leader like the pace car in the “Daytona 500.” He is a leader like a locomotive on a train. We do not follow in our strength. We are led by his power. So ‘walk by the Spirit’ means stay hooked up to the divine source of power and go wherever he leads” (John Piper)

Opposite sides same coin Spirit is leading us by creating desires to obey God, we walk by following/ putting those desires into action. Says when do this

- Not under the law

Principle Illustrated: (19-23)

The principle lived out (24-26)

- Yielding control

¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. (I Cor. 6:19-20)

- Death
- Life

“Among other things, walking implies progress, going from where one is to where he ought to be. As a believer submits to the Spirit's control, he moves forward in his spiritual life. Step by step the Spirit moves him from where he is toward where God wants him to be. So while it is the Spirit who is the source of all holy living, it is the believer who is commanded to walk.” (John MacArthur)

Principles

1. We are powerless to change on our own.
2. Yield control on a moment by moment basis.
3. Trust by faith he is now empowering.
4. Live it out

Application

1. Am I willing to **yield control** of my life to the Holy Spirit?
2. Am I willing to **follow** the Holy Spirit's leading in my life?