

Freedom in the Spirit
8-30-2020

1) Paul describes the need to walk by the Spirit.

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For 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. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:16-18

2) Paul highlights the evidences of a life lived in the flesh versus a life lived in the Spirit.

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, 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. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:19-23

The bad fruit

- Sensual sins
- Superstitious/religious sins
- Social sins

The way you deal with your sin is not simply by saying “no” to the flesh, but by also saying “yes” to the Spirit’s work.

The good fruit

- God-ward
- Man-ward
- Self-ward

Christian growth is gradual

The fruit of the Spirit has internal roots.

3) Paul says that those who truly “belong to Christ” have put to death the desires of the flesh, giving them power to deal with the remaining effects of the flesh.

And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Galatians 5:24-26

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23