

## THE SPIRIT-INFUSED LIFE

August 5, 2018 Galatians 5:13-25 by Bob Branch  
Introducing The Holy Spirit, part 6 of 6

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**3 Spheres:** Flesh, Religion, Spirit

**BIG IDEA:** *God's Spirit brings freedom—from both our old identities and empty religion—as well as produces Jesus' family likeness in us as we choose to yield to and walk in concert with him.*

<sup>13</sup> 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.

**1. The freedom Jesus bought for you on the cross is FREEDOM TO LOVE.**

"whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

**Matthew 20:26, 28** (John 13:15-17)

<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.

**2. There will always be conflict between flesh and Spirit—a tug-o-war—but WALKING IN THE SPIRIT is the solution, not more and better rules!**

"He will convict the world of sin" **John 16:8** NKJV

<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.

**3. RECOGNIZE the flesh, label it and its sober price tag correctly.**

<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.

**4. When we walk with the Spirit, Jesus' FAMILY LIKENESS emerges in us naturally over time.**

"Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life... at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." **Galatians 6:8-9**

**What does "Walking in the Spirit" that look like?**

--**Live in constant conversation with the Spirit.** (Phil 2:1; 2 Cor. 13:14)

--**Hide God's Word in your heart.** (Ps. 119:11; Lk 2:19)

--**Expect the Spirit's to lead**—look, listen. (Gal. 5:13; Jn 16:13-15; Rom. 8:14)

--**Slow down and declutter.** (Ex. 14:14; Ps. 37:7; 46:10; Is. 30:15)

--**No to flesh, yes, to the Spirit and serving others.** (Lk. 9:23; Tit. 2:12)

**PRAYER:** Lord, I want to walk in the Spirit all the time, every day! So, Holy Spirit, I ask for your help. I slow down so I can recognize and respond to your promptings. I will look for opportunities to join you and serve and love others. Holy Spirit, please lead me. Let me walk with you today. I submit to your leadership and look forward to your fruit in my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.