

## WALKING BY THE SPIRIT

September 18, 2022 Galatians 5:13-25 by Bob Branch  
Alive In The Spirit, part 15 of 17

***Walking with God can easily become work & rules, moralism & conforming***—having little to do with relationship with God.

**BIG IDEA: Walk in continual conversation and in sync with the Spirit, aiming at loving others by serving them.**

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to be free, brothers and sisters; only don't use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one another through love. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement: Love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, watch out, or you will be consumed by one another.

**God's practical antidote to the flesh-driven life is to serve others thru love.**

"Love God completely. Love others like you want to be loved."  
**Matthew 22:37-38**

<sup>16</sup> I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

**2 opposing forces living inside you!**

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I am warning you about these things—as I warned you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

***Our sin-leaning flesh exposes itself plainly.***

**Sow these seeds, reap a crop of stark consequences.**

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.

**These qualities naturally grow from walking in the Spirit.**

<sup>24</sup> Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit." **Galatians 5:13-25** CSB

"If your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out." **Matthew 5:29**

"The LORD my Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like those of a deer and enables me to walk on mountain heights!"  
**Habakkuk 3:19** CSB

### HOW DO YOU FOLLOW THE SPIRIT'S LEAD?

- \_\_\_\_\_ yourself with the Spirit's movements. He will always move you toward love—and the fruit are the way love moves.
- **Sit still with and \_\_\_\_\_ to God's Spirit each day.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the day.
- **Daily orient yourself to \_\_\_\_\_ everyone who comes into your sphere.**