

"How to Walk by the Spirit"

Romans 8:4

"The righteous requirement of the Law" is a life of holiness. "Speak to the congregation of the sons of Israel and say to them 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.'" - Leviticus 19:2

Christ has obtained for us freedom from the power of sin. Experiencing that freedom practically in one's daily life can only be obtained through a life controlled by the Holy Spirit and His power.

...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you... - Acts 1:8

"I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mark 1:8

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory. - Ephesians 1:13-14

Learning to walk by the Holy Spirit [I.E. Be controlled by Him rather than sin] on a daily basis is the ONLY WAY you will meet God's expectation of holiness in your life. Through Christ's provision God has given you all you need to not sin.

How do we walk according to the Spirit (in order to win the struggle against sin and self)?

1. Yield (Galatians 5:25).
2. Be filled (Ephesians 5:18).

1. **YIELD** (on a moment by moment basis). - *Galatians 5:24-25 (start in vs. 16?)*

A. **Three Steps to Yielding:** (remember, the steps to yielding happen on the inside ("understand") and manifest outwardly.)

1. **Understand what's already happened** (Romans 6:18-23).

- a.) Sin is no longer your master (Romans 6:12-14).
- b.) **You don't have to sin.**
- c.) Positional Sanctification.

2. **Understand what's happening now** (Romans 8:12-13).

- a.) **You are obligated** to put to death the misdeeds of the body (**Mortify/kill the flesh/yourself**).
- b.) It should hurt if you're doing it right. (because getting killed hurts).
- c.) That's what Jesus meant when He said, "If you wish to follow Me you must deny yourself and take up your cross and follow Me (Matthew 16:24)."

Now those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. - Galatians 5:24

i.) Offer up your body as a **sacrifice** to God. (BTW, sacrifices require pain and death).

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. - Romans 12:1-2

d.) **Suffer** against yourself and sin will lose.

Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries. - 1 Peter 4:1-4

e.) Progressive Sanctification.

3.) **Understand what will happen** (Romans 8:37-39).

- a.) Christ will conquer sin in you practically and completely one day (after this life on earth).
- b.) Nothing will stop this from happening.
- c.) **A mental focus shift as to where you're headed should motivate you to yield.**

i.) Knowing where your headed ought to effect your getting there. (If you're headed towards heaven don't live like your going to hell.)

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory. 55 "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; 57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord [fighting against sin and self, not just ministry stuff], knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. - 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

- d.) Ultimate Sanctification.

2. BE FILLED. - *Ephesians 5:18*

- A. **Three steps to being filled:** (These steps happen on the outside rather than the inside.)

- 1. **Be Worshipful** (*Ephesians 5:19*).

- A. In Paul's mind this is rooted in the Word of Christ.

Let the Word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and humans and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. - Colossians 3:16

- 2. **Be Thankful** (*Ephesians 5:20*).
- 3. **Be Subject** (*Ephesians 5:21*).

- B. The essence of each of these is humble adoration. Adore Christ through humble worship.

Next Week: How to test how your walking; and how to recover when you fail.