

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

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WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps. (Jeremiah 10:23)

And they said, "That is hopeless! So, we will walk according to our own plans, and we will everyone obey the dictates of his evil heart." (Jeremiah 18:12)

Do It Yourself (DIY) Christians

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

*For I do not understand my own actions. **For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.** Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. **So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.** For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. **For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.** Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but **sin that dwells within me.** So, I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. **For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.** Wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death?** (Romans 7:15-24, ESV)*

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

*This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or **by the hearing of faith?** (Galatians 3:2)*

*But to him who does not work **but believes on Him** who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness. (Romans 4:5)*

For **by grace**, you have been saved **through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? (Galatians 3:3)

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him. (Colossians 2:6)

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

1. The Principle of walking in the Spirit
2. The Practice of walking in the Spirit

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is God

*“And I will **PRAY** the **Father**, and He will give you **another Helper**, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.” (John 14:16-17)*

*Pray (ask) (erōtaō) – asking an equal (contrast with vv. 13-14) – deity praying to deity

*Another (allos) - Another numerically, but of the same kind

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is a Person

*But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to **lie to the Holy Spirit** and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?... **You have not lied to men but to God.**"*

(Acts 5:3-4)

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

A “walk” signifies progress toward a destination in our practical daily living.

“In the Spirit” means that we yield to His control, and we allow Him to exert His influence over us.

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us **who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.** (Romans 8:1-4)*

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

*There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who **are in Christ Jesus**.*

He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:18)

No condemnation -> because we are **in (united to, in union with) Christ Jesus**

A new identity; a new Head (Romans 6)

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

When we sin, the believer has conviction without condemnation

*My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate with the Father**, Jesus Christ the righteous. (1 John 2:1)*

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore, I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. (John 16:15)

Our inheritance in Christ

The Holy Spirit taking the things of Christ and experientially makes them ours.

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

*For the **law of the Spirit** of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the **law of sin and death**. (8:2)*

Two laws or principles that are **continuously at work**

We are set free from the law of sin and death

New identity (Romans 6) – benefits of the death of Christ

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh. (Romans 8:3)

The Law never succeeded in producing righteousness because of the weakness of human nature

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh.

His Son became a real man apart from sin

He came to deal with the problem of the principle of sin

He passed sentence on sin; he judged sin

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Deposed from its dominion

The law, could only pronounce judgment and inflict penalty, but could never dethrone sin.

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

That the righteous requirement of the law **might be fulfilled in us** who **do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.**

In us by the Holy Spirit not by us

It answers Paul's question: *Who will deliver me from this body of death?* (7:25)

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

...who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

According to the power and will of the Spirit

Know our position in Christ – identified with Christ

Know we have died unto sin (ch. 6)

Reckon (believe) – faith

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Walks in dependence upon the Holy Spirit

Impotent in himself (Romans 7) – naturally a sinner

The indwelling Spirit enables the believer to live a godly life – move forward in the direction of God's will

Identified with Christ -> Dead to sin -> alive unto God through the Spirit

Depend upon the Spirit to cultivate and produce righteousness in our lives

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

A) Sanctification

B) Service

The Spirit desires to testify to Christ in us and through us

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

I say then: Walk (peripateite) in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

peripateite – “keep on walking”

The word walk (from *peripateo*) which means literally "to walk about," - conducting or ordering one's manner of life or behavior

You shall not (the double negative *ou mē* is emphatic)

Fulfill (gratify, execute in outward action) the desires of the sinful nature

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Paul admonishes them to continue to govern their lives by the inward impulses of the indwelling Holy Spirit because He is continually working to minister to their spiritual needs.

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

If we live in the Spirit, let us walk (stoicheō) also by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)

The Holy Spirit gave us spiritual life (John 3:5-6), so each believer is exhorted to keep in step with the Spirit

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

If we live by the Spirit, let us walk (stoicheō) also by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)

stoicheō - keep in step

To proceed in a row as the march of a soldier, orderly

Step by step one's Christian walk should conform to the Spirit's direction and enablement

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification – Fruit of the Spirit

Singular fruit of Christlikeness vs. works of the flesh

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)

Love (agape) – self-sacrificing love that acts

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. (John 13:3-4)

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:17-18)

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Joy – an inner rejoicing that rests in God independent of circumstances

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. (John 15:11)

Based on the knowledge that *“All things work together for good to them that love God”* (Romans 8:28)

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Peace – It is an inner repose and quietness base upon being reconciled to God, a desire to be at peace with others

*Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!"
And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. (Mark 4:39)*

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27)

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7) a fruit of prayer

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Longsuffering (patience) – the quality of forbearance under provocation, no thoughts of retaliation when wrongfully treated

Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously. (1 Peter 2:23)

*Strengthened with all might, **according to His glorious power**, for all patience and longsuffering with joy. (Colossians 1:11)*

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Kindness – benevolence in action

*But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared.
(Titus 3:4)*

*That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in
His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:7)*

*Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies,
kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering. (Colossians 3:12)*

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Goodness –an uprightness of soul and reaching out to others to do good even when it is not deserved

Therefore, we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power. (2 Thessalonian 1:11)

Zealous for good works (Titus 2:14) – good works in Jesus' Name

Be ready for every good work. (Titus 3:1) – be sensitive to the Spirit's leading

Careful to maintain good works. (Titus 3:8) – helping those in need

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Faithfulness –trustworthy or reliable

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True... (Revelation 19:11)

Perfect obedience and perfect achievement

*Moreover, it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.
(1 Corinthians 4:6)*

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Gentleness (meekness) – submissive to God’s Word (James 1:21); humble, mild, forbearance

THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME—IN THE VOLUME OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME—TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.' (Hebrews 10:7)

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:29)

Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. (Philippians 4:5)

You who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness (Galatians 6:1)

In humility correcting those who are in opposition (2 Timothy 2:25)

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Sanctification

Self-control (temperance) – self-mastery; primarily relates to curbing the works of the flesh; impossible to attain apart from the power of God's Spirit

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Empowers for service

This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.

(Zechariah 4:6)

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. (Ephesians 6:10)

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

*Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; **but tarry** in the city of Jerusalem **until you are endued with power from on high.** (Luke 24:49)*

***But you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8)*

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Praying in the Spirit

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. (Jude 20)

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. (Ephesians 6:18)

Praying in the power of the Holy Spirit

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

The Spirit Intercedes

*Likewise, the Spirit also **helps in our weaknesses**. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)*

God knows the mind of the Spirit and He knows our hearts, and the Spirit can conform our imperfect prayers to the will of God.

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

The Spirit Guides

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. (Romans 8:14)

As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." (Acts 13:2)

One of the privileges we have as adopted sons in God's family is being led by the Spirit.

2. THE PRACTICE OF WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

The Spirit Teaches

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. (John 14:26)

The Holy Spirit opens up our understanding of God's Word
(1 Corinthians 2:14-16)