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2020 SUMMER CAMP

CHRISTIAN GROWTH

A STUDY OF GALATIANS 5:16-26

July 30-August 2 | Tonto Rim Christian Camp | Payson, AZ

The spiritual growth of a Christian is...

- rooted in the soil of faith in Christ
- watered by the Spirit-enabled means of grace in sanctification
 - and blooms in the varied expressions of love.







The Command

Session 1: Thursday Evening

Galatians 5:16



The Command

“But I say, Walk by the Spirit”



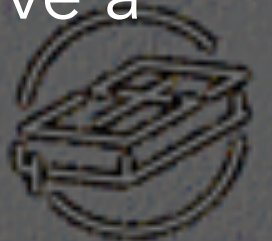
Big Idea

You must understand the **COMMAND** to walk in the Spirit.



But I say...

- “But” – a contrasting conjunction
- We should ask, “How is this different than what came before in the text?” or “What is Paul about to say that is in contrast with what he was referring to earlier?”
- The opposite of “I” would be the false teachers.
- 5:7 – “WHO hindered you from obeying the truth?”
- 5:12 – “I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!”
- Why is Paul so passionate about warning the Galatians to live a different way than the false teachers were teaching?



...Walk...

- Continuous action
- Communicates progress
- A Command...NOT an Option!
- 2nd Person Plural – EVERYONE is included.
- Eph 2:10 – Created in Christ Jesus for good works...that we should WALK in them.
- Col 2:6 – As you received Christ Jesus...so WALK in Him.



Parallel Lines



... by the Spirit...

- What does it mean???
- Is it some mystical feeling?
- Is it something only super Christians can do?
- Is it something you can see, touch, hear, smell, taste??



“It is that constant, effective, benevolent influence which the Holy Spirit exercises within the hearts of God’s children whereby they are being directed and enabled more and more to crush the power of indwelling sin and to walk in the way of God’s commandments freely and cheerfully.”

– William Hendrickson



... by the Spirit...

- What does it mean?
 - It is something only a Christian can experience.
 - It is something you do continually, moment by moment.
 - It is something you are empowered to do.
 - It is something that is effective.
 - It is something that acts as a gracious helper
 - It is NOT actually it, but a PERSON --> The 3rd Person of the Godhead



Walking by the Spirit is a **COMMAND**
Not an **OPTION**.

Walking by the Spirit is a **GIFT**
Not something we **EARN**.

Walking by the Spirit is a **MINDSET**
Not something you **FORGET**.



Walking by the Spirit provides the
DIRECTIONS for which way to go, but
also the **FUEL** to get you there.





As the Holy Spirit inspired and illumines
the Word of God,
we can say walking in the spirit means
living all of life in
conformity to the Word of God
through the power of the Spirit of God.



It is the work of God's grace,
through the power of the Spirit,
that fuels our obedience.



2 Peter 1:3-4: *His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*



Do you understand the need for internal transformation by the Spirit for the production of external fruit?

Are you tired of simply seeking to modify behavior either in your own life?



Inside out living requires
faith in the heart that
produces fruit in the hands.

Faith → Fruit

All with the indwelling power
of the Holy Spirit.



How can I discern the difference between keeping in step with the Spirit's work in my life and laboring in my own strengths and abilities?





Romans 8:2-4: *For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do.*

By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.



The Command to the Christian to Obey!

“But I say, Walk by the Spirit”



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The Conflict

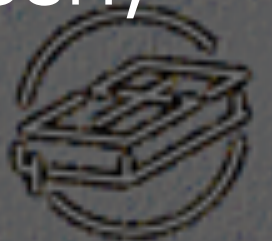
Session 2: Friday Morning

Galatians 5:17-18



The Conflict

“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...” v17



Big Idea

You must understand the inevitable **CONFLICT** that you face daily as a Christian indwelt by the Spirit of God yet still living in sinful flesh.



16b ...and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 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. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.



The Battle of the Flesh Vs Spirit

- Vice vs Virtue
- This is opposition both in our Desires and what we Do (Mind, Heart, and Hand)



Romans 8:6-8: For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.



The Battle of the Flesh Vs Spirit

- Vice vs Virtue
- This is opposition both in our Desires and what we Do (Mind, Heart, and Hand)
- In bondage to the law vs freedom in the grace of Christ.
- Do you see the Contrast?
- The Devil employs a very clever strategy between the slavery of the law and the freedom of the Spirit.



Col 2:20-23 - If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— 21 “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” 22 (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? 23 These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.



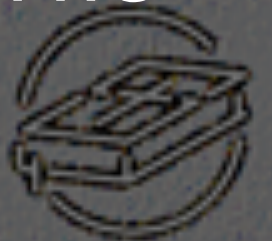
*True Liberty Produces
Love Not License*



DO vs DONE



*Phil 2:12-13 - Therefore, my beloved,
as you have always obeyed, so now,
not only as in my presence but much
more in my absence, work out your
own salvation with fear and
trembling, 13 for it is God who works
in you, both to will and to work for his
good pleasure.*





Romans 7:17-25

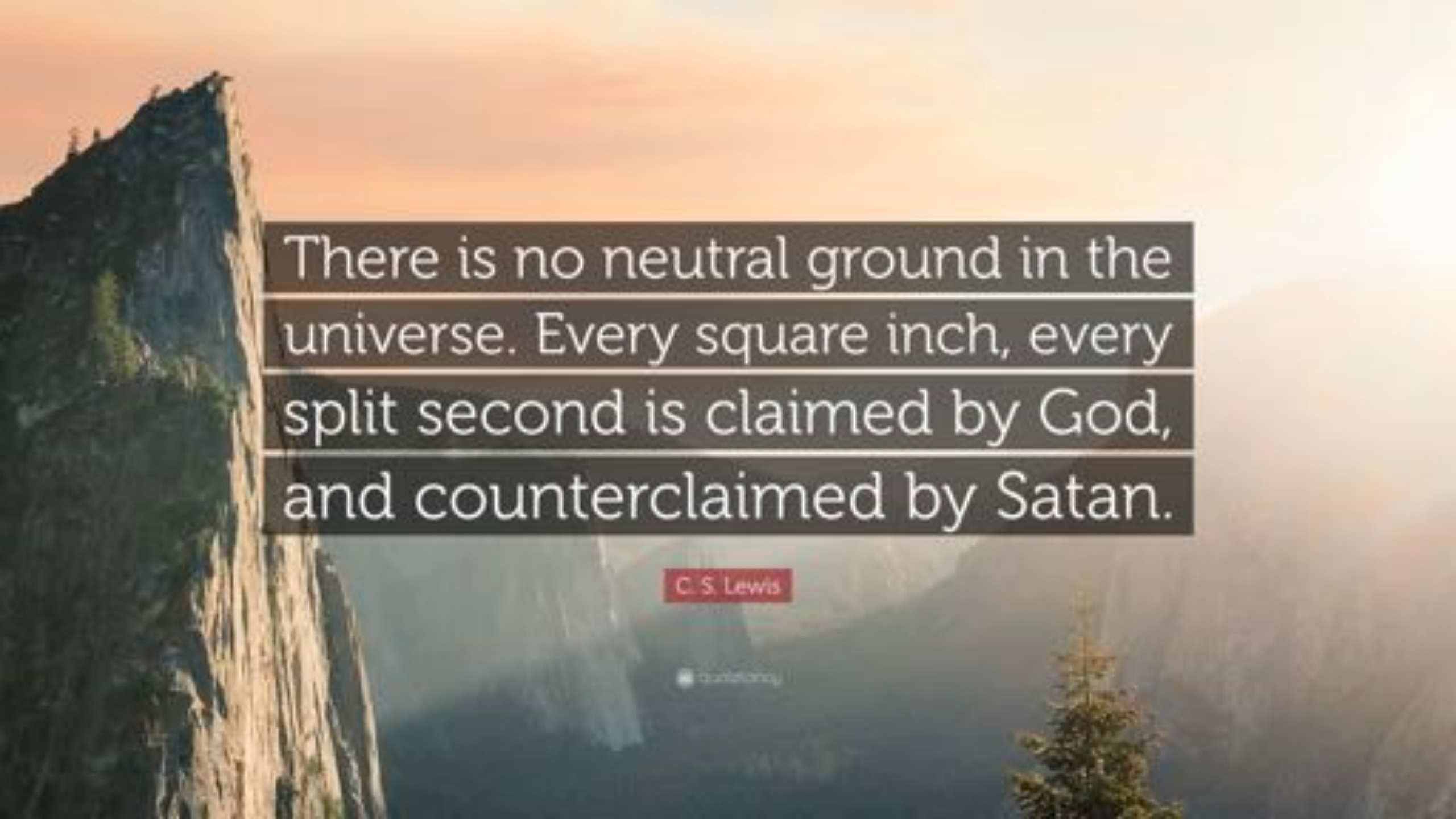
So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.



Romans 7:17-25

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? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.





There is no neutral ground in the universe. Every square inch, every split second is claimed by God, and counterclaimed by Satan.

C. S. Lewis

quotation

Romans 8:13: For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.





FIRE DANGER

EXTREME

TODAY!

PREVENT WILDFIRES

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The Corruption

Session 3: Friday Evening

Galatians 5:19-21



The Corruption You Must Avoid!

“Now the works of the flesh are evident...”



Big Idea

You must understand the total **CORRUPTION** from within. The natural bent of the human flesh is not good but evil.



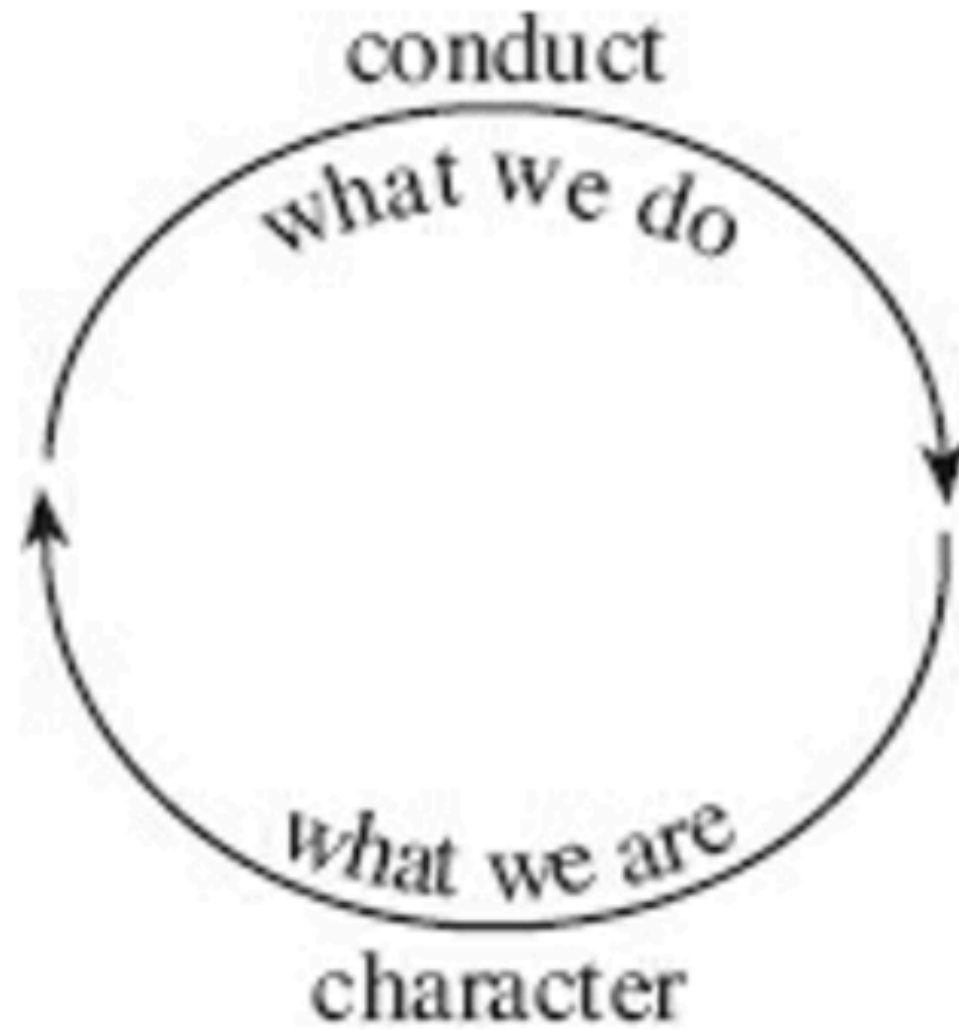
Lusts of the Flesh

- Cravings or pleasures for what is wrong in God's eyes.
- Eph 2:3 – this is our default position
- This is the summary of what is wrong with the human heart that leads to bad behavior. CRAVINGS → CONDUCT



The flesh is the selfish, God
resisting impulse, bent, or
inclination within us that
opposes God and His will.





The Flesh is a bosom-traitor; it is like the trojan horse within the walls, which doth all mischief.

The flesh is a sly enemy, it kills by embracing.

The embracing of the flesh are like the ivy embracing the oak; which sucks out the strength of its own leaves and berries: So the flesh by its soft embraces, sucks out of the heart all good...The flesh chokes and stifles holy motions...The flesh inclines us to believe a temptation than a promise.

- Thomas Watson, The Christian Soilder



The Works of the Flesh are Evident...

- Moral sins: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality
 - *Porneia* – pornography
 - Uncleaness
 - No Restraint
- Religious sins: idolatry & sorcery
 - Making anything in life more WORTH than God
 - *Pharmakeia* – drugs, provide some kind of escape or altering of the mind ; used in magic and sorcery



The Works of the Flesh are Evident...

- Relational Sins: enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy
 - Hatred
 - Hostility
 - Fighting
 - Zealous Jealousy
 - Uncontrolled Temper
 - Divisions
- Indulgent Sins – Drunkenness, orgies
 - No self denial or discipline, ALL IN Self-indulgent



Since you became a Christian
can you easily identify the works
of the flesh that you still fight
the most frequently and
fiercely?



Those who practice these things will not inherit the kingdom of God

- Practice – continually, habitual, characterize your life – “those who make a practice of these things”
- This is IN or OUT language – Heaven or Hell
- 1 John 3:4-10
- SO, can a Christian commit these sins? Yes – But it will not be the pattern of their life, but the exception.
- 1 John 1:5-10



“It is one thing to be provoked by the flesh,
and another thing to assent to the flesh,
and without fear or remorse to perform
and fulfill the works thereof, and to
continue therein, and yet to counterfeit
holiness.”

Martin Luther





Romans 7:17-25

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.



Romans 7:17-25

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? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.



Apply with a Story

Create a fictional story that incorporates a life-like example of one (or several) of the categories of fleshly deeds.

Moral (Sexual) Sins. Religious Sins. Relational Sins. Indulgent Sins



The Character of Christ

Session 4: Saturday Evening

Galatians 5:22-23



The Character of Christ to Follow

“But the fruit of the Spirit is...”



Big Idea

You must understand the union with Christ that comes out in the characteristics of his perfect life lived.



Jn 14:16-17 - *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you*



Christ's earthly life gives us the greatest example
of what it looks like to "walk in the Spirit" or be
"led by the Spirit"



A major function of the Holy Spirit's ministry is to shape us to be like Christ.

2 Cor 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, 5 are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

6 For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.



Salvation is a real union with the real Christ
with the real personal bond, indwelling,
sealing of the Holy Spirit of God within us.



Jesus compares a branch which bears no fruit
to one that does bear fruit.

John 15:2

Spoils of the Flesh vs Fruit of the Spirit



Spirit-Produced Fruit

- 9 qualities emphasizes one's attitude
- Not an exhaustive list
- These are NOT self-generating qualities
- This is Faith energized by love that leads to holiness.
- These are qualities commended and commanded all throughout Scriptures – Col 3:12-17; 2 Peter 1:5-11





LOVE ἀγάπη

benevolence, good will, esteem
Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful... (1 Corinthians 13:4-5)



JOY χαρά

gladness, a source of joy
Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory... (1 Peter 1:8)



PEACE ειρήνη

harmony, welfare, peace of mind
For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility... that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, as making peace... (Ephesians 2:14-15)



PATIENCE μακροθυμία

forbearance, longsuffering
But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:16)



KINDNESS χρηστότης

uprightness, benignity, gentleness
But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Father appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy... (Titus 3:4-5)



GOODNESS αγαθωσύνη

intrinsic goodness and kindness
Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true)... (Ephesians 5:8-9)



FAITHFULNESS πίστις

belief, trust, confidence
Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight, your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. (Luke 18:42-43)



GENTLENESS πραΰτης

softness, meekness, courtesy
Remind them... to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. (Titus 3:1-2)



SELF-CONTROL ἐγκράτεια

self-mastery, self-restraint, continence
For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness... (2 Peter 1:5-6)

Love

- Definition – To serve a person for their good and intrinsic value, not for what the person brings you.
- Opposite – Fear: self-protection and abusing people.
- Counterfeit – Selfish affection. Rescuing someone but really rescuing self. Attracted not to a person, but to how this person's love makes you feel about yourself.



Joy

- Definition – Delight in God and his salvation for sheer beauty and worth of who he is.
- Opposite – Hopelessness, despair.
- Counterfeit – Elation that comes with blessings not the Blessor! Mood swings based on circumstances.



Peace

- Definition – Confidence and rest in the wisdom and sovereignty of God more than your own.
- Opposite – Anxiety and worry
- Counterfeit – Indifference, apathy, not caring about something. “I don’t care.”



Patience

- Definition – Ability to take trouble (from others or life) without blowing. To suffer joyfully.
- Opposite – Resentment toward God and others.
- Counterfeit – Cynicism. Self-righteousness. “This is too small to be bothered about.”



Kindness

- Definition – Practical kindness with vulnerability out of deep inner security.
- Opposite – Envy. Unable to rejoice other's joy.
- Counterfeit – Manipulative good deeds. "Right hand knowing what left hand is doing." Self-congratulation and self-righteousness.



Goodness

- Definition – Honesty, transparency. Being the same in one situation as another.
- Opposite – Phoniness; hypocrisy.
- Counterfeit – Truth without love. “Getting it off the chest” for your sake.



Faithfulness

- Definition – Loyalty. Courage. To be principle-driven, committed, utterly reliable. True to one's word.
- Opposite – Opportunist. Fair-weather friend.
- Counterfeit – Love without truth. Being loyal when you should be willing to confront or challenge.



Gentleness

- Definition – Self-forgetfulness. Controlled Strength.
- Opposite – Superiority: self-absorbed
- Counterfeit – Inferiority: self-absorbed.



Self-Control

- Definition – Ability to choose the important thing over the urgent.
- Opposite – A driven, impulsive, uncontrolled person.
- Counterfeit – Willpower through pride or through more “functional” idols.*

*taken from Tim Keller





2 Peter 1:3-4: *His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*



Gal 2:20 – I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live but Christ who live in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 – I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.



If we are to be holy as God is holy, we need the Holy Spirit in us to live out holiness through His enablement and power.

