

Practicing the Christian Life: Led by the Spirit

Galatians 5:16-26

7/16/23

Outline

¹⁶ So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. ¹⁷ The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. ¹⁸ But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses.

¹⁹ When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another. (vss. 16-26)

I. The Necessity of the Fruit.

"For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God." Romans 8:14

"I felt that God loved me. I experienced that God loved me. It was no longer something that was in my head, but it's something that I felt in my heart." John Wesley

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II. How to Cultivate the Fruit of the Spirit.

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there." (vs. 24)

"So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves." (vs. 16)

"But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses." (vs. 18)

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there." (vs. 24)