

Walk in the Spirit

Text: Galatians 5:16-26

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Elkin, NC

Danny Dodds, Pastor

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I. THE COMMAND (v. 16 - “Walk in the Spirit”)

- A. A command is a divine directive or instruction that reveals God’s will for our lives and is always intended for our well-being and benefit
- B. To walk in the Spirit is to “walk by the Spirit,” meaning to conduct one’s life under the leadership of the Holy Spirit
- C. The Holy Spirit lives within the believer not only to comfort, teach, and guide but also to reveal truth and things to come (*John 16:13*)
- D. It is imperative that believers be under the Spirit’s command and control at all times.

II. THE CONDITION (that which is required, a prerequisite)

- A. One must rely on the Holy Spirit’s power for strength and direction rather than oneself.
- B. One must be sensitive to the Holy Spirit
- C. One must continually obey the Holy Spirit
- D. One must consistently oppose the flesh
- E. One must believe and declare the old nature dead and refuse to let it rule one’s life (v. 24)

III. THE CONFLICT (v. 17)

- A. There is an ongoing war between the flesh and the Spirit. They are “opposed to each other,” meaning we cannot satisfy both at the same time.

IV. THE CONTRAST (v. 19-23)

- A. The works of the flesh (v. 19-21)
 - 1) The works of the flesh include sexual immorality, idolatry, relational strife (including anger and jealousy), and lack of self-control
 - 2) Living habitually in these patterns shows a lack of spiritual life and disqualifies one from inheriting the kingdom of God
- B. The fruit of the Spirit (v. 22-23)
 - 1) “Fruit” is produced by the Spirit naturally and is not something we manufacture ourselves

V. THE CONSEQUENCE (v. 16)

- A. One will have victory over the flesh
- B. One will exemplify Jesus by reflecting Jesus’ nature and behavior through daily actions
- C. One will be a good role model for other believers
- D. One will give proof of a Spirit-transformed life
- E. One will live in freedom from the bondage of sin and the condemnation of the law (v. 18)