

# The Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:16-26

## How can we walk by the Spirit..

— Galatians 5:16-17 I say then: Walk by the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.



### Christ has set us free...

- Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.
  - John 8:31-36 Jesus sets us free in the truth
  - Sin following our desires enslaves us

## Do not be enslaved again

- Jewish law showed we cannot live God's standard in our own strength
  - We need a Savior (Jesus Christ he fulfilled the law)
  - The Gospel: what God did by sending His Son
- Jewish Christians had difficulty changing their mindset
  - To follow God, you had to live by certain rules
  - You had to be circumcised

### Paul's response: free in Christ

- Gal 5:2-4 if you seek to be justified by circumcision
  - Christ will not benefit you
  - Obligated to keep the whole law
  - Separated from Christ and grace
- Gal 5:5-6 What counts with God...
  - We wait for the hope of righteousness
  - What matters: faith working through love

# Does that mean we can live however we want?

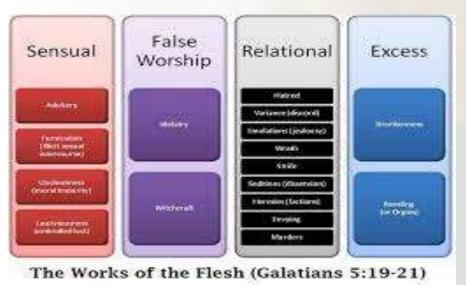
- Galatians 5:13-15 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. <sup>14</sup> For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!
  - Jesus the two greatest commandments
  - These ultimately fulfill the whole law

### We are not saved in our own strength...

- Galatians 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.
  - Romans 8:5 set your minds on the things of the Spirit
  - Our actions reflect what is in our heart
  - Different mindset: not about following a set of rules
  - Our God given desire to follow Him keeps us from fulfilling fleshly desires

### Desires of flesh...

— Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup> envy, <sup>[f]</sup>murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.



### Fruit of the Spirit...

— Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23 [g]</sup>gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.





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