

Life in the Spirit
Galatians 5:13-18

Getting Started

- ❖ Jerry pointed out at the beginning of the message that the annual theme of “Life in the Spirit” has been chosen because if we have any hope in living a life that honors God and if we have any hope in seeing the vision of our church fulfilled, it depends on us being filled and led by the Spirit of God.
 - Break up into groups of 2, finding someone who is not a family member.
 - Answer the following question and explain your answer to the other person:
When I consider my life right now, I need the Holy Spirit to help me with ____.
 - Pray in your groups of 2 for one another over each person’s need.

Digging Deeper

- ❖ **Read Galatians 5:13-18 and the following quote by Dr. John MacArthur.** Discuss: How is gospel freedom different than libertinism and legalism? From your experience, what do both extremes of libertinism and legalism look like? While both extremes are dangerous, is there one you find to be more of a nuisance or more prevalent than the other? If so, why?

Someone has pictured legalism and libertinism as two parallel streams that run between earth and heaven. The stream of legalism is clear, sparkling, and pure; but its waters run so deep and furiously that no one can enter it without being drowned or smashed on the rocks of its harsh demands. The stream of libertinism, by contrast, is relatively quiet and still, and crossing it seems easy and attractive. But its waters are so contaminated with poisons and pollutants that to try to cross it is also certain death. Both streams are uncrossable and deadly, one because of impossible moral and spiritual demands, the other because of moral and spiritual filth. But spanning those two deadly streams is the bridge of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the only passage from earth to heaven. The two streams lead to death because they are man’s ways. The gospel leads to life because it is God’s way. (*John MacArthur*)

- ❖ **Reread the Sermon text and then read Eph. 5:15-21.** How do the verses in Ephesians help us to better understand and apply the expression “walk by the Spirit”?
- ❖ **Study Galatians 5 & 6.** Our annual theme is “Life in the Spirit”. Both of these chapters describe what living in the Spirit does and does not look like. Divide your group in half with one section digging into chapter 5 and one into chapter 6. When you come back together, present those things which do and do not characterize living in the Spirit according to these two chapters.

(Over)

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Think About It!

We cannot come to Christ to be justified until we have first been to Moses to be condemned. But once we have gone to Moses, and acknowledged our sin, guilt and condemnation, we must not stay there. We must let Moses send us to Christ. (John Stott)

The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us. (C.S. Lewis)

Praying Together

This evening, rather than going around sharing our prayer requests and then praying, let's pray our "prayer requests" out loud. If something is on your heart that you would like the group to be praying for, please bring it to our attention by praying aloud the burden and need that is on your heart.

WORSHIP RESOURCE

September 8, 2019 | Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP SONGS

YOUR LOVE AWAKENS ME

Words and Music by Phil Wickham and Chris Quilala, 2016

There were walls between us, by the cross you came and broke them down,
you broke them down. And there were chains around us
By your grace we are no longer bound, no longer bound.
You called me out of the grave, you called me into the light,
You called my name and then my heart came alive.

*Your love is greater, your love is stronger,
Your love awakens, awakens, awakens me.*

Feel the darkness shaking, all the dead are coming back to life,
I'm back to life. Hear the song awaken,
All creation singing we're alive, 'cause you're alive.

And what a love we've found, death can't hold us down
We shout it out, we're alive 'cause your alive.

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

Words by Francis of Assisi, 1225 / German Melody, 1623

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia, alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,

O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in
heaven along, O praise him, alleluia! Thou rising morn in praise
rejoice, Ye lights of evening find a voice.

Let all things their creator bless, and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one.

LIVING HOPE

Words and Music by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham, 2017

How great the chasm that lay between us,
how high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
and spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness Your loving kindness
tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such
boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear
my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spoken, I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me His own. Beautiful Savior,
I'm Yours forever. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

*Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah!
Death has lost its grip on me. You have broken every chain
with salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope!*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the roaring Lion
declared the grave has no claim on me. Jesus Yours is the victory.

BREATH OF GOD, BREATHE

Words and Music by Paxson Jeancake, 2012

Holy in me. All that I need; righteousness, divine.
God now unseen, living in me; you raise the dead to life.

*Breath of God, breathe;
I want to receive everything, all you say that you are.
Counselor, teach me; Comforter, reach me.
Spirit of Jesus, fill my heart; Breath of God, breathe.*

I know all is in vain when I try to maintain a strength that's not
my own. Come and fill me again with your Spirit within.
Remind me I am yours; remind me I am yours.

DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 103; 1 Kings 12:21-33; Acts 4:18-31; John 10:31-42

MONDAY | Ps. 5; 1 Kings 13:1-10; Philippians 1:1-11; Mark 15:40-47

TUESDAY | Ps. 42; 1 Kings 16:23-34; Philippians 1:12-30; Mk. 16:1-20

WEDNESDAY | Ps. 1; 1 Kings 17:1-24; Philippians 2:1-11; Matt. 2:1-12

THURSDAY | Ps. 16; 1 Kings 18:1-19; Phil. 2:12-30; Mark 2:13-23

FRIDAY | Ps. 51; 1 Kings 18:20-40; Philippians 3:1-16; Matt. 3:1-12

SATURDAY | Ps. 104; 1 Kings 18:41-19:8; Phil. 3:17-4:7; Matt. 3:13-17

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Lord Jesus, may we count the cost
of being your disciple,
and be willing to give up all
of our possessions to follow you.
We pray that we would choose
life and prosperity today.
Help us to love you, to walk in your ways,
to observe your commandments,
and to hold fast to you in all circumstances;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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