

Walking In the Spirit Week One

Have you ever wondered how Jesus lived the life He did on earth?

FALSE CONCEPT #1: Jesus lived a life of perfection because He was an alien.

FALSE CONCEPT #2: Jesus lived a life of perfection because He was an angel.

FALSE CONCEPT #3: Jesus only operated from His divinity as God.

TRUTH: Jesus lived a life of perfection by walking in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:16-25 (ESV)

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, 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. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

What is the flesh?

“The flesh is the ego which feels an emptiness and uses the resources in its own power to try to fill it. Flesh is the “I” who tries to satisfy me with anything but God’s mercy. The flesh is the ego which feels an emptiness but loathes the idea of satisfying it by faith, that is by depending on the mercy of God in Christ. Instead, the flesh prefers to use the legalistic or licentious resources in its own power to fill its emptiness. As Romans 8:7 says, “The mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law.” The basic mark of the flesh is that it is unsubmitive. It does not want to submit to God’s absolute authority or rely on God’s absolute mercy. Flesh says, like the old TV commercial, “I’d rather do it myself.” -John Piper

Galatians 5:24 (ESV)

“24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

We are in the space between & in this space is where the Spirit seeks to move us forward into Christ-likeness. To make us look like Jesus. But the sad part is the flesh is still present in this space between. The old man still opposes the new man. The flesh is at war against the Spirit. And it is inside of all Christians & this will be our fight until the end.

Galatians 5:16 (ESV)

*“16 But I say, **walk** by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”*

How to walk in the Spirit.

1.) By intentionally choosing to abide in Jesus every single day until the end.

John 15:4-5 (ESV)

“4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

GET IN ENVIRONMENTS WHERE THE SPIRIT OF GOD CAN DO HIS WORK.
PRIVATELY BY YOURSELF & CORPORATELY WITH OTHERS.

2.) By fighting the fight of faith with the promises of God.

*“Day by day Paul trusts the Son. Day by day he casts his cares on God, frees his life from guilt and fear and greed, and is borne along by the Spirit. How, then, do we walk by the Spirit? The answer is plain. **We stop trying to fill the emptiness of our lives with a hundred pieces of the world, and put our souls at rest in God.** The Spirit will work the miracle of renewal in your life when you start meditating on his unspeakable promises day and night and resting in them. The fight of faith is fought with the promises of God. And the fight of faith is the same as the fight to walk by the Spirit. He works when we are resting in his promises.” -John Piper*