

Galatians - Walk This Way

Message by Pastor Clay, The Naz

Week 9 - November 16th, 2025

[Link to Sunday Service](#)

Summary

This week we're in Galatians 5 and talking about living in Christian liberty while avoiding two dangerous ditches: *legalism* and *license*. The Christian life is a life of freedom on the narrow road, but believers can drift into the ditch of *legalism* (believing salvation comes through works) or the ditch of *license* (abusing grace for self-indulgence). The solution is to walk by the Holy Spirit, who provides the power to live in true freedom. Christians are called to holiness and service, not self-indulgence, and the Spirit enables believers to overcome the desires of the flesh through consistent surrender and obedience to God.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together to study Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us. Help us to be receptive to the leading of Your Holy Spirit and to set aside any distractions or preconceived notions. Lord, we desire to grow in our understanding of what it means to live in true Christian liberty. Show us how to walk by Your Spirit and avoid the ditches that would lead us away from the narrow path of life. We pray that our discussion would draw us closer to You and to one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one area of your life where you've had to learn the difference between freedom and license (like getting your driver's license, moving out on your own, or starting a new job)?

Key Verses

- Galatians 5:13-17
- 1 Peter 1:16
- Philippians 1:6
- Leviticus 19:2

Questions

1. There are two ditches on either side of the narrow road of Christian liberty: *legalism* and *license*. Which ditch do you think is more tempting in our current culture, and why?
2. Charles Spurgeon said that “the grace that does not change my life will not save my soul”. How do you understand the relationship between grace and transformation in the Christian life?
3. We can look spirit-filled but still be self-led. What are some practical ways we can evaluate whether we're truly walking by the Spirit or just going through religious motions?
4. The Christian life is a spiritual war between the flesh and the Spirit. What are some specific battles you face in this war, and how can walking by the Spirit help?
5. What does it mean to give the Holy Spirit 'unfettered access' to your life? What areas might we typically try to keep off-limits from God's influence?
6. The three practical steps mentioned by Pastor Clay were: narrow the gap between God's commands and your compliance, between His conviction and your confession/correction, and track/train your spiritual diet. Which of these resonates most with where you are spiritually right now?

Life Application

This week, implement the three questions Pastor Clay suggested as a daily spiritual diet tracker: 'How did I feed my flesh today?', 'How did I feed my soul today?', and 'How did I feed others today?' At the end of each day, honestly evaluate these areas and ask the Holy Spirit to show you your next step of obedience. For help, utilize the Spiritual Diet Tracker templates.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you for the freedom you've given us through your sacrifice on the cross. We confess that too often we've either tried to earn your approval through our works or we've taken your grace for granted. Help us to walk by your Spirit each day, surrendering our lives completely to your leadership. Fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit and give us the power to live lives that honor you. May we stay on the narrow path of liberty, serving one another in love and growing in holiness. Keep us from the ditches of legalism and license, and help us to feed our souls more than our flesh. We trust that you who began a good work in us will complete it. In your precious name we pray, Amen.