

## Keep in Step with the Spirit

Revelation 2:29; Galatians 5:16-26

Read Revelation 2:29. What or who is the Holy Spirit?

- Let's consider the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 and John 14:16-17

**First point:** If you love the Spirit, if you are excited by the Holy Spirit, I have great news for you: He wrote a book.

- "David, speaking by the Spirit..." (Mark 12:36, where Jesus quotes David in Psalm 110). "All Scripture is breathed out by God" (2 Tim 3:16).
- Why is this important?
  - It's like tuning an antenna to a certain frequency—*before* taking it out in the field. We first tune our antenna to the Holy Spirit's voice by engaging Scripture.

Our passage today: Gal 5:16-26

**Second point:** Living by the Spirit means far more than passing a Bible exam.

- Listen to the practical emphasis of "walking" and "living" in Gal 5:16, 18, 22, 25.
  - And especially 5:25: "Keep in step with the Spirit." Moment by moment!
  - An example: "He will teach you all things *and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*" (John 14:26)

- Keep in step with the Spirit because there's a battle inside: flesh vs Spirit (Gal 5:17ff)

**Third point:** The Holy Spirit is self-effacing, pointing us toward Christ.

- Self-effacing = not claiming attention for oneself
  - See Christ's words in John 16:13-14: "He [the Holy Spirit] will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you." The Spirit is like the FedEx guy, bringing Christ to us!
  - See Pentecost: the Holy Spirit comes in power! But even then, it's all about Jesus. It's all about the gospel.
- Any truly Spirit-filled church has to be a Gospel-centered church. The Spirit centers us on the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

### Questions for Reflection and Application:

1. Do you naturally gravitate towards experience/adventure or book learning?
  - a. In the Bible, which works of the Holy Spirit fit into each of these two categories?
2. Read Galatians 5:16-26.
  - a. Don't just live by the Spirit in some sort of general sense. Instead: "Keep in step with the Spirit." (5:26) What does this mean practically?
  - b. This passage describes the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. Those in Christ have crucified the flesh (5:24). What does this mean? How can you renew this?
  - c. Of the nine-fold fruit of the Spirit, find the one you tend to "ignore." Which one is it? Pray to the Spirit that this might grow in you.