

Sunday, September 24, 2023—Galatians 5:16 Walk In the Spirit

### **Galatians 5:16**

- **This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.**
- **Walk in the Spirit**—Paul instructs the Galatians and, therefore, us to “walk in the spirit,” or lead our daily lives by the power of God the Holy Spirit. The verb rendered “walk” is a present active imperative i.e., Paul is commanding believers to walk in a particular way.
- The word “walk” can have both literal and figurative meanings. Consider the following examples from Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language*:
  - 1) To move slowly on the feet; to step slowly along; to advance by steps moderately repeated; as animals. Walking in men differs from running only in the rapidity and length of the steps; but in quadrupeds, the motion or order of the feet is sometimes changed.
    - Matthew 14:29
  - 9) In Scripture, to live and act or behave; to pursue a particular course of life.
    - Genesis 5:22
- Paul has a lot to say about how we ought to walk as believers.
  - Romans 6:4; 8:1, 4; 13:13
  - Ephesians 2:2, 10; 4:1, 17; 5:2-8
  - Philippians 3:18
  - Colossians 1:10; 2:6; 3:7; 4:5
  - I Thessalonians 4:1, 12
- Galatians 5:16—notice how Paul takes for granted the fact that the Galatians have the “Spirit.” Put another way, he not telling them to go get the Spirit of God. Rather he is instructing them to walk in the Spirit of God that they already possessed.
  - Galatians 3:2—the believers in Galatian had already revied the Spirit the moment they believed.
  - Ephesians 1:13-14
  - Ephesians 4:30
- Ephesians 5:18—we need to allow the Holy Spirit that we have been given to be the operative force in our lives.

- Verse 19—worship to God.
  - Verse 20—thankfulness.
  - Verse 21—submission in the fear of God.
  - Verses 22-24—wives to husbands.
  - Verses 25-29—husbands to Christ.
  - Chapter 6 Verses 1-2—children to parents.
  - Chapter 6 Verses 5-7—servants to masters.
- Colossians 3:16—letting the Word of Christ dwell in you richly produces the same results as being filled with the Spirit.
    - Verse 16—worship to God.
    - Verse 17—thankfulness.
    - Verse 18—wives to husbands.
    - Verse 19—husbands to wives.
    - Verse 20—children to parents.
    - Verse 22—servants to masters.
  - Walking in the Spirit, or being filled with the Spirit, has nothing to do with speaking in tongues as Pentecostals suggest.
  - Galatians 5:16—when one walks in the Spirit, there is no possibility of fulfilling the lusts of the flesh. They are mutually exclusive systems.
  - Romans 8:11-12