



Series: Thriving in Grace
Passage: Galatians 5:16-25
Title: Experiencing the Spirit Led Life
Speaker: Pastor David Menard 5/4/2025

Discussion Starter – How do you suppose those outside of the church interpret the term “Spirit led life”? Does it imply a mystical communication or a trance-like connection to an un-seen power? How can we define the term in a practical way, highlighting the results of living a life led by the Holy Spirit? What is the alternative to a Spirit-led life?

Review Galatians 4:20-5:15

1. What fear or doubts does Paul express for the Galatian believers and what disparaging statements does he make about them in verses 4:20, 5:2, 4, 7, 9, 15, and 20?
2. How do Paul’s concerns coincide with his strong condemnation of the false teachers from Chapter 1:8-9?
 - a. How is performance-based religion a significant threat to your relationship with Jesus?
 - b. What loss do we risk when performance-based religion becomes the standard of our Christian Walk?

Read Galatians 5:16-21

3. What does Paul say are the only two alternatives we have to approach the choices we make for our lives?
4. Define what Paul means by the terms Spirit and flesh in this passage.
5. What is the difference between how flesh and Spirit have influence in our lives?
 - c. Are there any specific “works of the flesh” in verses 19-21 that you find lingering in your life? What is Paul’s direction to avoid them?

Read Galatians 5:22-26

6. What is the significance of using the picture of fruit for the outcome of the work of the Spirit in a believer’s life? What other bible references might Paul be activating or referencing with this term? (Examples: Genesis 1-2, Isaiah 5, Matthew 13, John 15)
7. Why do you think love is listed as the first fruit? Why is self-control listed last?
8. Fruit of the Spirit is placed in contrast to the works of the flesh. Why is sin-avoidance not proposed?
9. What are some ways that were given as examples of how NOT to live by the Spirit?
 - d. Where does fruit originate? What effective efforts can we make to enhance the development of fruit in our lives?
10. Why is verse 26 an appropriate cautionary warning to those who would walk in the Spirit?