



Galatians 5:13-25

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. 14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Fresh Fruit

This is a bad world!

▲ Consider the roots of worldliness

17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature.

▲ Consider the rotten routines of worldliness

19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

▲ Consider the results of worldliness

—Division and destruction

15 If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

—Deferral and denial

21 I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

▲ Consider the remains of worldliness

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; — 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

▼ *Believers must check themselves regularly for creeping crud*

▼ *Believers must check themselves regularly for Christian content and conduct*

There is a better way!

▲ Crucify the sinful nature

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

▲ Comply with the Spirit's new nature

16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. — 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. — 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

▼ *We must be living by the Spirit – strengthened and supplied and sustained*

▼ *We must be led by the Spirit – surrendered in stride and in step*

▲ Cultivate a spiritual nursery

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

▼ *Cultivate the fruit of a loving Christian life – love, kindness, gentleness*

▼ *Cultivate the fruit of a settled Christian spirit – joy, peace, patience*

▼ *Cultivate the fruit of consistent Christian conduct – goodness, faithfulness, self-control*

▲ Consider this summary note

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. 14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

1. **Make a choice** to surrender your attitudes and actions to God.
2. **Maximize the charge** of spiritual power in your life through the Word and prayer.
3. **Maintain a checkup** on your spiritual status at all times, humbly and honestly.
4. **Master the challenge** to grow significantly in spiritual fruitfulness.