

What's It Look Like?

Review: Walking by the Spirit (Gal. 5:16) and being filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18) is fully yielding to the Holy Spirit's power or influence.

1. *But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.*

What does walking by the Spirit look like in terms of a Christian's thoughts, attitudes, words and deeds? Read the context, especially Galatians 5:16-26.

Walking by the Spirit

Walking by the Flesh (sin nature)

- A. The word fruit is singular, so all of these character traits will grow.
- B. Fruit grows; it's inevitable.
- C. And fruit grows gradually.
- D. The change wrought in us by the Holy Spirit is internal, not surface.
It shows on the surface but the change is deeply rooted in a renewed nature.

2. *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation (debauchery (NIV), decadence, ruin NLT), **but be filled with the Spirit**, (Eph. 5:18)*

What does being filled with the Spirit look like in terms of a Christian's thoughts, attitudes, words and deeds?

Read the context, especially 5:15-22; 5:25; 6:1; 6:4.

Filled with the Spirit

Filled with the Flesh (sin nature)

3. ***Do not quench the Spirit***; (1 Thes. 5:19)

What does quenching the Spirit look like in terms of a Christian's thoughts, attitudes, words and deeds? Read the context, 4:1-8; 5:12-22.

Water the Spirit

Quench the Spirit (Water the Flesh, the sin nature)

4. ***Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*** (Eph. 4:30)

What does grieving the Spirit look like in terms of a Christian's thoughts, attitudes, words and deeds? Read the context, especially 4:17-32.

See Isaiah 63:10 for the connection between human rebellion and divine grief.

Bring joy to the Spirit

Grieve the Spirit (Satisfy the Flesh, the sin nature)

5. The terms are not mentioned, but check out the similarities in Col. 3:1-22.

What does **considering** your flesh (sin nature) dead (vs. 5) and **putting on** (vs. 12) and **letting** (vs. 15-16) look like in terms of a Christian's thoughts, attitudes, words and deeds?

Put on the Spirit

Consider the Flesh dead (sin nature)

Ok, I understand what it looks like. How can I do it, get it, grow it?

1. Belong to Christ. (5:24)

This is the initial act of surrendering your life to His Lordship.

2. Live out on a practical level the ongoing killing of your sin nature.

The continued life of yieldedness to His Lordship involves our conscious decisions and choices. The Holy Spirit inside us leads us to obey God, not out of fear of the Law, but out of love for God.

3. Keep in step with the Holy Spirit by following His lead, by yielding to His prompting. (5:25)

Message

In step with Him, keeps you out of step with sin.

So What? Now What? Action Points:

How do you open yourself to someone's influence?
How will you open up to the Holy Spirit's influence?

How do you grow your relationship with anyone?
How will you grow your relationship with the Holy Spirit?