

# Life by the Spirit - Galatians 5:16-26

## Topics:

Believers, Conflict, Desires, Discipline, Fruit, Gentleness, Goodness, Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Joy, Kindness, Kingdom of God/Heaven, Law, Love, Patience, Peace, Sin

## Open It

1. If you could change one personality trait in yourself, what would you change?

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2. What do you really like about yourself?

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## Explore It

3. What would happen if the Galatians lived by the power of the Holy Spirit? (5:16)

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4. What is the conflict between the sinful nature and the Spirit? (5:17)

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5. How were the Galatians affected by the conflict between the sinful nature and the Spirit? (5:17)

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6. How could the Galatian Christians lead godly lives? (5:18)

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7. What is one obvious feature of human nature? (5:19)

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8. To what sexual sins are we prone? (5:19)

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9. What religious sins does the sinful nature produce? (5:20)

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10. What societal evils come from our sinful nature? (5:20-21)

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11. In what sense is Paul's list of sins incomplete? (5:21)

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12. What warning is given to those who live sinful lives? (5:21)

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13. What happens to a Christian who is under the control of the Holy Spirit? (5:22-23)

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14. What is the result of yielding to the Spirit? (5:22-23)

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15. How do the Christian graces affect all areas of the believer's life? (5:22-23)

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16. How is a Christian empowered to live by the Spirit? (5:24-25)

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17. What did Paul tell the Galatian Christians not to do? (5:26)

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**Get It**

18. How much should we rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance and power in our lives?

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19. How is your response of faith necessary in order for the Holy Spirit to have victory in you?

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20. Why do Christians tend to excuse the behavior of their old nature?

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21. What acts of the sinful nature tend to entangle you?

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22. What is the fruit of the Spirit?

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23. In what sense do love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control grow in a person much the way fruit grows on a tree?

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24. How can a person cultivate the character qualities of the Holy Spirit in his or her life?

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26. How do you see the character of the Holy Spirit growing in your life?

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27. Who is kept out of the kingdom of God?

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28. How does the warning against living a sinful life apply to someone you know?

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29. In what ways do Christians need to guard against conceit and envy?

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**Apply It**

30. What can you do this week to nurture the character of the Holy Spirit in your life?

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31. How can you and the Spirit get rid of the dead wood that stifles your growth?

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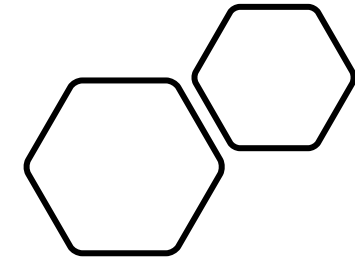
32. What do you want to do the next time you encounter conceit or envy in your church?

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Adult Questions for LESSONMaker.



## **BIBLE STUDY**

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
23455 W. Nine Mile Road  
Southfield, Michigan

## **INSTRUCTORS**

Rev. Dr. David L. Roberson, Pastor  
Rev. Valerie Crump, MAPT/CF/CBC  
Special Assistant to the Pastor



# Galatians 5:16-26

## “Life by the Spirit”

### TOPICS

- Believers
- Conflict
- Desires
- Discipline
- Fruit
- Gentleness
- Goodness
- Holy Spirit
- Jesus Christ
- Joy
- Kindness
- Kingdom of God/Heaven
- Law
- Love
- Patience
- Peace
- Sin





# Galatians 5:16-26 “Life by the Spirit”

**OPEN IT QUESTIONS**



## Open It Questions

1. If you could change one personality trait in yourself, what would you change?



2. What do you really like about yourself?

**Open It  
Questions**



## Introduction

Paul turned to the personal, spiritual lives of the Galatians. He had warned them not to follow the teaching of the Judaizers. Here he warned them about following their own wishes and desires. Slavery was a threat from the outside influence of the false teachers, but it was an equal threat from the inside desires of the sinful nature. Paul wanted them to replace self-indulgence with loving service to others.



## Introduction

In this section, Paul explained that the secret to loving our neighbor as ourselves is by living in the Spirit and not giving in to our sinful human desires. He contrasted the characteristics of a life motivated by the sinful nature and a life motivated by the Spirit.



# EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS



## Explore It Questions

3. What would happen if the Galatians lived by the power of the Holy Spirit? ([5:16](#))



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“So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves.”

**(5:16 NLT)**





## Explore It Questions

4. What is the conflict between the sinful nature and the Spirit? ([5:17](#))



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“The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.” (**5:17 NLT**)



## Explore It Questions

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## Explore It Questions

6. How could the Galatian Christians lead godly lives? ([5:18](#))



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“But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses” (**5:18 NLT**).



7. What is one obvious feature of human nature? ([5:19](#))

**Explore It  
Questions**



## Explore It Questions

7. What is one obvious feature of human nature? ([5:19](#))

“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures,...” (**5:19 NLT**)





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### 8. To what sexual sins are we prone? ([5:19](#))

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**Explore It  
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## Explore It Questions

9. What religious sins does the sinful nature produce? ([5:20](#))

“...idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division,...” (**5:20 NLT**)



## Explore It Questions

10. What societal evils come from our sinful nature?  
([5:20-21](#))



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<sup>20</sup> ...idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division,

<sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.



## Explore It Questions

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“...envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God” (**5:21 NLT**).





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<sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,  
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**(5:22-23 NLT)**



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<sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.

<sup>25</sup> Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. (**5:24-25 NLT**)



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**Explore It  
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“Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another” (**5:26 NLT**).



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