

Keeping in step with the Spirit

Josué Lainey – February 1st, 2026

Galatians 5:25 (ESV)

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Where is the Spirit leading us?

- **Into righteousness!**

The Galatians were being led to believe that through circumcision they could be made right with God.

- **Paul is showing them that their own works can't save them, only Christ and His Spirit making them new (Like Jesus, spoiler alert).**

Galatians 5:4–6 (NIV)

You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.

⁵ For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

The Spirit leads us to express our faith through love

Galatians 5:22–23 (NIV)

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

Righteousness is not merely about what we can produce but who we are becoming...

Galatians 4:19 (NIV)

My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,

The Spirit is making us like Jesus

- **External compliance doesn't assume an internal transformation**

2 Corinthians 3:16–18 (NIV)

But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The Spirit doesn't free us because we do what's right

- **He frees us to be transformed to do what is right**
- **We must CONTINUALLY come boldly before God ...**

The Spirit leads us not into condemnation but freedom!

C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity:

"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

- **We can't pick and choose where we keep in step with the Spirit**

The Spirit intends to change every part of us to be like Jesus

Galatians 5:24-26 (NLT)

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.

Where does he need to transform us?

- **Where do we need to nail the passions and desires of our sinful nature?**
- **Where are we relying on religious duty instead of desperation for God?**
- **Where are we resisting His work?**