

Walking in Step with the Spirit's Mission

Bryan Neisteter – March 1, 2026

Galatians 5:25

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”

If we are to walk in step with the Spirit, our lives must be focused on the same things He is focused on. One of these things we see clearly in the Scripture is that the Spirit is on a mission.

The Spirit is on a mission:

Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 2:17-18, 21

“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy... ²¹ And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

We cannot walk in step with the Spirit if our hearts aren't moved by the same things that move the heart of the Spirit. We can't move in step with the Spirit and sit on the sidelines while people are hurting and suffering all around us, while a lost world slips into a Christless eternity.

The predominant model of discipleship in the western church is wrong. So much of it is about gaining information; the person who attends church faithfully, knows their Bible and reads the most Christian books and has the right answers, is the one who is mature. But Jesus' disciples were not just taught information, they were sent out on mission, they were called to DO something. They were called to reach the hurting and the lost. We can't be a disciple if we are not willing to serve and minister to others.

Walking in step with the Spirit means we must:

1) Seek God's kingdom and agenda above our own.

- **Luke 22:42b**

“...not my will but yours be done.”

- **Matthew 6:33**

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2) Surrender control to God — finances, time, hopes and dreams.

- This requires vulnerability and it requires trust.

3) Join with the Holy Spirit in His mission — commit to living a life of ministry to God (worship and prayer) and others (mission).

Revelation 2:1-7

To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. ² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³ You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. ⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. ⁵ Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. ⁶ But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

The question we need to ask ourselves is: Have we at some point pulled back from our first love?

- 1) Maybe we have been distracted by other things like the desire for financial success or to prove that we are a somebody to those around us.
- 2) Maybe the enemy has come after you and you fell into temptation and sin and now you feel like you are not worthy to be used by God.
- 3) Maybe you have been hurt along the way and disillusioned.

God wants to heal your hearts. He is inviting us forward, to re-engage with His mission, to walk in step with His Spirit.

Isaiah 52: 1-2

Awake, awake, Zion, clothe yourself with strength! Put on your garments of splendor, Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. ² Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, Daughter Zion, now a captive.

He is speaking over your heart — “Awake.” That fire that once burned bright in your heart, He’s ready to ignite again, if you are willing.

He’s inviting us out of cynicism. Out of lukewarmness. Out of sitting (metaphorically) in the back row with our arms crossed — to get re-engaged with Him again, and to walk in step with His Spirit.