

March 14, 2010

A Life Directed by the Spirit

How to Love One Another

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-25

Pg. 975 in the pew Bible

Introductory thoughts

Jesus said that if we loved Him we would keep His commands and love one another in such a way that the world would know that we are His disciples. Yet conflict to a disastrous level remains in the lives of Christians and the church. Why is that? How could that be? It is because we have not learned to surrender to the Spirit and put our flesh to death.

A Reminder - The Context of Paul's Letter to the Galatians

CONFLICT

Paul's/God's Answer to Conflict:

Walk by the Spirit - be led by the Spirit - live by the Spirit (5:16,18, 25)

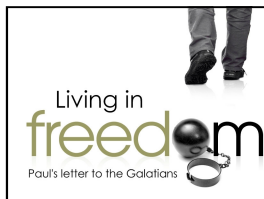
Flesh leads to conflict

Spirit leads to peace

Look at the fruit:

How Living by the Spirit deals with Conflict:

1. It first clarifies the issues (chapters 1-5)
2. Has us all agree upon the same guide
3. We all agree to let Him be our guide (cf. Eph. 5:15-21; Col. 3:12-17)
4. Everyone must trust His guidance



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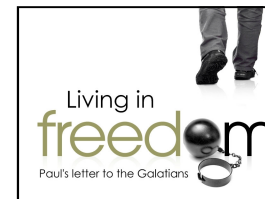
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Sermon HD Questions:

1. Where does most conflict come from in your life?
2. What does the Bible say is the root of our conflict (both within and without)?
3. How does the fruit of the Spirit make us Christlike in our attitude toward God?

Toward other people?

Toward ourselves?
4. What do you think will result in your life when you live under the power of your own flesh? On the other hand, what do you think will happen when you live by faith in the power of the Spirit?
5. What would need to change today in your life to have the Spirit of God lead you?
6. Honestly, how would you respond to this statement: “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, **rightly handling the word of truth.**” (2 Tim. 2:15)

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