

Renewing Our Vision for 2021
“Walking According to the Spirit” Part 2
Romans 8:1-11

The Fruit of the Spirit

“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh, for the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another.”

Galatians 5:16-17

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is not law.” Galatians 5:22-23

Learning to Walk in the Spirit (Romans 8:1-11)

Last Week:

1. I no longer need to feel condemned by God for my failures in doing what He commands. (Rom. 8:1; 7:18-24; Phil. 3:6-9)
2. My focus in life is depending upon the Holy Spirit’s influence to do what is honoring to God. (Rom. 8:2-4)
3. My most important priority is to focus my thoughts consistently on the priorities of the Spirit rather than my desires. (Rom. 8:5)

Today:

4. My mind focused upon “My desires” (flesh) is focused upon self-gratification at the expense of others and input from God. (Romans 8:6a, 7-8)

There are multiple expressions of the flesh that rob people of life:

Self-focus in management of money.

Self-focus in management of sexuality.

Self-focus in management of anger.

Self-focus in management of people (laborers, employees, ...)

***We Are Skilled at Manipulation of Laws/Rules
to justify our prioritization of self-service!***

5. My mind focused upon “the Spirit” produces life and peace because the Spirit produces life and righteousness through me. (Romans 8:6b, 9-11)

If the Spirit dwells in me He is the dominant influence in my life!

The product of the Spirit in me is no longer Sin, but Righteousness.

Sin hurts people, but righteousness benefits people!

Being “Spirit-Focused” Is Being “Other-Focused”

- I must deny myself in order to focus upon the Spirit’s concern for how my choices can be a blessing to others. (Matthew 16:24-26)
- All I possess is entrusted to me so that I can bless others and lead them to Jesus. (I Timothy 6:17-19)

It is easier to put on the new than simply put off the old!

My prioritization of others changes my investments!

- I am embracing the Spirit’s prioritization of building the family of God. (I Cor. 12:7-11; John 17:17-23; 13:34-35)

*Jesus’ love of the sheep is
manifested through
the Spirit in me!*