

## Galatians 5:13-26

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

<sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

English Standard Version (ESV)

## THE HOLY SPIRIT The leading of the Spirit Galatians 5:13-26

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- Christianity & freedom

### **Not free from the battle of desires (v16-18)**

- flesh vs Spirit

### **Free from an enslaved lifestyle (v19-23)**

- the works of the flesh (v19-21)
- the fruit of the Spirit (v22-23)

### **How to keep on the path of freedom (v24-26)**

- we have crucified the flesh – so we must leave it there
- we have life by the Spirit – so we must walk by the Spirit
  - o we have life by the Spirit (v25)
  - o we are led by the Spirit (v18)
  - o we must walk by the Spirit (v16)
  - o we must keep in step with the Spirit (v25)



### **Discussion questions**

*Why is Christianity seen by some as the enemy of freedom? Can you relate to the conflict of desires between the sinful nature and the Spirit? Which type of slavery do you tend most towards – legalism or licence? Is there more you could be doing to keep on the path of victory and freedom?*