



**Title** | Flesh vs Spirit  
**Series** | Witness for the Defense  
**Text** | Galatians 5:16-26  
**By** | Jeff Dover  
**Date** | July 20, 2025

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# Sermon Notes

Galatians 5:16-26. <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.

ESV

## Big Idea:

Galatians 5:22-23. <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. ESV

## For Reflection and Application:

### Monday:

Read Galatians 5:16-17. Compare to Romans, chapter 7. Paul felt a war waging within himself between his desire to do good and his desire to sin. Can you feel that war in your own life? How do you deal with your personal war? How does your way compare to Paul's way?

### Tuesday:

Read Galatians 5:19-21. Paul lists some specific sins. Do you recognize any of these sins in your own life? What does Paul mean when he says of those who commit these types of sins, "will not inherit the Kingdom of God?" Does this mean you're not saved if you commit any of these sins? If not, what does he mean?

### Wednesday:

Read Galatians 5:22-23. Paul lists some specific Godly character traits. Do you recognize any of these traits in your own life? Are you lacking any? How can you integrate these traits into your personality?

### Thursday:

Read Galatians 5:19-23. Paul gives us two lists: One is a list of sins, the other is a list of Godly character traits. He describes the sins as works, but the character traits as fruit. Is there a difference between work and fruit?

### Friday:

Read Galatians 5:25-26. Paul gives both an encouragement and a warning. What word picture does Paul use that will give us the power to follow his encouragement and warning?

### Daily Prayer:

Father, remind me to do what's right simply because it's right and avoid what's wrong simply because it's wrong. Amen

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