

The Holy Spirit: THE Key to Living  
A Faithful Christian Life (Part 2):

Make the Holy Spirit the Dominant Influence  
In Your Life

Galatians 5:19-25

Last week: *Depend on the Holy Spirit's Power.*

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Today: *Make the Holy Spirit the Dominant  
Influence in Your Life*

I. What is the dominant influence in your life right now? (vv.19-23).

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If you are a Christian, it is either:

*the flesh* (your sinful nature)

or

*the Spirit of God.*

A. If our sinful nature is the most powerful influence in our life, then some of the things found in vv.19-21 will be present in us.

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1. Sexual sins (v.19):

*sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality*

*Sensuality* as defined by William Barclay:

"a love of sin so reckless and so audacious that a man has ceased to care what God or man thinks of his actions."

A. If our sinful nature is the most powerful influence in our life, then some of the things found in vv.19-21 will be present in us.

2. Religious sins (v.20):  
*idolatry, sorcery*

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3. Social sins (vv.20-21):

*enmity (hatred), strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries (selfish ambition), dissensions, divisions, envy*

A. If our sinful nature is the most powerful influence in our life, then some of the things found in vv.19-21 will be present in us.

4. Alcohol-related sins (v.21):  
*drunkenness, orgies*

Warning (v.21):

*I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

B. If the Spirit of God is the most powerful influence in our lives, we will be developing the character qualities that Paul calls the fruit of the Spirit:

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*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (vv.22-23).*

II. How can the Holy Spirit become the dominant influence in your life every day?  
(vv.24-25)

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A. Say “No!” to the desires of your sinful nature.

II. How can the Holy Spirit become the dominant influence in your life every day?  
(vv.24-25)

A. Say “No!” to the desires of your sinful nature.

*And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. (v.24)*

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B. Say “Yes!” to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

II. How can the Holy Spirit become the dominant influence in your life every day?  
(vv.24-25)

B. Say “Yes!” to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

*If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. (v.25)*

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First thing every morning, before you get up,  
commit yourself to His control.

1. Resolve each morning to walk in the Spirit. First thing every morning, before you get up, commit yourself to His control.
2. Strive to maintain your walk throughout each day. Don't turn away from the Spirit's leading so you can flirt with the desires of the sinful nature.  
The Spirit will guide, protect, and empower you. All you must do is follow Him by faith.

- Chuck Swindoll