

The Apostle Paul has made his case to the churches of Galatia that circumcision will add nothing to their salvation. Jesus has paid in full the debt we owed. We couldn't keep all the law no matter how hard we tried. Paul then explained that what really counts is faith working through love, for loving your neighbor as yourself is the way to live the spirit of God's laws. In Christ we are free to unselfishly love others and serve them with God's love. It is the Spirit who empowers us to live in victory over our carnal desires.

Last Sunday we saw in the two preceding verses that the flesh and the Spirit are always at war within us. We learned that all we must do is yield to the Holy Spirit to experience victory in that war. Paul followed that instruction with a general description of the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. This helps us identify whether we are living in the flesh or by the Spirit.

When I was sixteen years old, a group of boys was at my home reading the Bible together. We didn't have a mentor or teacher. We would just read a passage and talk about what we thought it meant. We came to our passage for today and asked ourselves which descriptions best fit us. We came to the conclusion that we lived more in the flesh than the Spirit. So, we decided to stop and pray and ask God what was wrong with us. Jesus walked into the room. There was no manifestation, but we all sensed He was present. Of course, He is always present, but He made us aware that He was. That is the best I can describe it. We felt conviction of sin, but even more we felt His love for each of us. Macho teenage boys don't cry easily, but we were all crying from the emotions that came over us. What we were missing is the Holy Spirit. Those of us who had received Jesus as our Savior already had the Spirit of God, but that night He had us. He let us sense what it was like for Him to have all of us. We were missing His complete Lordship over our lives. As we go over this portion of Scripture, we should all be asking ourselves, "Have I surrendered all of myself to the Holy Spirit?"

The flesh is our fallen human nature. It is everything in us that declares independence from God. ¹⁹ *Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,* Galatians 5:19 Paul begins this famous passage describing the results of yielding to the flesh nature. If we live by the Spirit, then we won't be exhibiting the works of the flesh. Those who practice these things will not inherit the kingdom of God. That should put the fear of God in us. Our actions exhibit where our hearts are.

Sexual immorality - sexual sin almost always tops the list when sins are listed. I believe that is because marriage is a picture of Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:32¹). God gave this gift to married couples to draw them together, to procreate, and for mutual pleasure. It is a wonderful gift that foreshadows the mutual pleasure we have in our union with Christ. To then turn it into a selfish act that ignores God's intent and seeks only to use a person for a temporal thrill, represents idolatry. God made it an important physiological drive as it represents an equally important spiritual hunger. When sex is misused, it can become a destructive addiction.

Impurity is physical or moral uncleanness. The enemy of our souls will gladly give us a high when we do something we know we should not do. It is the temporary thrill of rebellion. From shoplifting to murder, people testify to the thrill that caused them to want to repeat the rebellious act.

Sensuality is much like impurity. The Greek word is the negative of staying within bounds. Certain acts can include all three of these words, but this word seems to imply a continued disposition toward that which is morally degrading. It can include one's manner of speech. Lewd joking is a regular part of our entertainment world, but something we should not participate in (Ephesians 5:4ⁱⁱ). As the mind goes, so eventually the body will follow. Our minds should be holy, capturing the thoughts that are not of God and submitting them to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:4,5ⁱⁱⁱ).

²⁰ *idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions*, Galatians 5:20 Idolatry is anything that comes between us and God, that which takes first place in our hearts other than God. Paul calls greed idolatry (Colossians 3:5^{iv}). That is because we serve or worship what we are greedy for with our time and energy. It can be a desire, such as for fame or wealth. It can be a person or a form. Pornography fits the previous expressions, but can be because a certain body shape has taken the place of ultimate pleasure in the mind and heart. It doesn't have to deliver that pleasure we seek, but merely the idea that it can. The Hebrews thought the idols of the nations around them could make them wealthy or powerful. It wasn't the little image so much as the faith in the image producing the desire of the heart.

Sorcery- *pharmakeia* - Drugs! Or the use of dark powers whether through mediums or witches or incantations. It is seeking something through other means than God, and usually in blatant disregard for God's will. It can refer to chemicals whether natural or manufactured that alter our normal state for escape, pleasure, or a sense of spirituality. Like all these deeds of the flesh, it avoids going to God and His Word.

Enmity is hatred as the result of unforgiveness. As I mentioned before, it is like drinking poison and expecting the person you hate to die. Jesus warned us that if we do not forgive others, we will not be forgiven (Matthew 6:15^v).

Strife is continued animosity toward another whether verbal or physical. Someone was recently telling me their work environment was constant strife. May we never contribute to the strife of the world, whether it is over politics, work, or in the home.

Jealousy is the breaking of the tenth commandment. It is desiring that which God has given another, envying it. It can include a desire for malice. "It should be mine and not yours!" God is a jealous God, but it is a completely different kind of jealousy than the world's selfish desire to possess something (Exodus 34:14^{vi}). He wants us for Himself because it is best for us. It is pure love that wants to see us forsake the world and belong to Him alone.

Fits of anger is losing control of one's emotion in rage. Rage demonstrates you not only don't trust God but are angry with Him for allowing circumstances to be as they are.

Rivalries or factions. It is to form one group against another causing strife. The word is often translated as strife. This and the following two are often the result of a prideful person in an organization whose ego wants to be in control. When it is in a church, they will resist the elders at every turn and try to gain a following, often by private murmuring with others in the congregation sowing dissatisfaction. Real error among elders should be discussed openly in light of the Scriptures. If elders go astray, they should be openly confronted by multiple witnesses (1 Timothy 5:19^{vii}). Too often the division is over personal desires and opinions such as music style, the facility, teacher preference, or some physical matter. Paul rebuked these kinds of rivalries in his first letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 1:10,11^{viii}).

Dissentions - divisions or sedition. It is similar to the previous word, but it has a more insidious tone of destroying unity.

Divisions - Our word heresy comes from this Greek word as heresies caused the church to divide. It can also be translated as "sect". It is a choice to go in a different direction from Christian orthodoxy. For the Gentile Galatians to start trying to keep Jewish laws was an action that exhibited these last three works of the flesh. They are the most common works of the flesh in the church throughout history to today.

²¹ 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. Galatians 5:21
Envy - ill will, jealousy, whether over a gifting, title, or possession.

Drunkenness - over indulging in alcohol or any drug that alters one's natural state as a substitute for the Spirit (Colossians 3:15^x).

Orgies - Abandoning sexual moral boundaries in a free for all. It was a part of some pagan worship ceremonies for fertility. The Galatians may have been tempted to participate in the local temple activities they had experienced before their conversion.

If any of these behaviors is a continued way of life, something that identifies the person, not simply a one-time stumbling into sin, you can know that person is in the flesh and will not enter the kingdom of God. If the person is a believer, the Spirit will bring such conviction that he or she cannot continue in such behavior. You might envy someone, but the Spirit will make you uncomfortable about that attitude of the heart until you finally repent. Sin is addictive and always suggests a little more will finally satisfy, and it does for a moment, and then it suggests a little more until it finally consumes you (Ephesians 4:19^x).

We cannot say that because we do *not* practice those things that we are living in the Spirit unless we have the fruit of the Spirit that follows. Nor should we look at these lists as a list of does and don'ts to be spiritual. Fruit is different from work. Sin is hard work because we are trying to satisfy our emptiness with things that will never satisfy. Branches don't work to bear fruit. The life in them produces it. His life in us helps us live out the Spirit of the law here called the fruits of the Spirit. Remember that Jesus said the whole law was fulfilled in loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39^{xi}; Galatians 5:14^{xii}; Romans 13:8-10^{xiii}).

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, Galatians 5:22 Love, the Greek word is *agape*. It is a love that sees a value in the object of that love and gives without an expectation of return. It is used to define God (1 John 4:8^{xiv}). It is the love God has for us (John 3:16^{xv}). It is the love Jesus commands us to have for God and our neighbor. His banner over me is love! (Song of Songs 2:4^{xvi}). In the Old Testament the word *hesed* best parallels this word (Psalm 36:5^{xvii}, 7). God's love is said to extend to the heavens (Psalm 36:5^{xviii}). It is so precious to all who know Him (1 Corinthians 13:13^{xix}; Psalm 36:7^{xx}).

Joy - *chara*, the metaphor for it in God's Word is wine (Psalm 104:15^{xxi}; Zechariah 10:7^{xxii}). It is deep, inner gladness. There was great joy at Jesus' birth (Luke 2:10^{xxiii}). It is associated with the resurrection (Luke 24:52^{xxiv}), the second coming (1 Peter 4:13^{xxv}), testimonies (Acts 15:3^{xxvi}), when disciples are found to be walking in the truth (2 John 1:4^{xxvii}) and in us when we will be presented blameless before the presence of His glory (Jude 24^{xxviii}; Matthew 25:21^{xxix}); and ironically we have joy when persecuted for Jesus' sake (Luke 6:23^{xxx}) and when we meet trials (James 1:2^{xxxi}). We have joy when God

works through us (Luke 10:17^{xxxiii}), when someone repents (Luke 15:7^{xxxiii}), when we obey Jesus (John 15:11^{xxxiv}), when God answers prayer (John 16:24^{xxxv}). The kingdom of God is joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17^{xxxvi}; 15:13^{xxxvii}). Those we disciple are our joy (1 Thessalonians 2:19,20^{xxxviii}). If you are lacking the joy of the Lord, I encourage you to meditate on these many references. And remember, joy is not a work but a fruit.

Peace (*eirene*) means harmony with God and man resulting in rest and contentment. The Hebrew equivalent, *shalom*, also means that there is sufficiency in all things. In Christ, we have just that; not that we have all material wants or even what we may think are needs. In Him we realize we have all things (John 14:27^{xxxix}; Philippians 4:19^{xl}).

Patience can be defined as longsuffering, forbearance, or fortitude. What a beautiful fruit! How we need patience with others and with our own spiritual growth. Sometimes we need to patiently wait for God's answer to prayer, knowing that He hears us and knows the best timing to answer that prayer. Patience declares our trust in God.

Kindness in Greek is also translated usefulness or moral excellence in character or demeanor which is much broader in meaning than our English word. It is to see a need and help because help is needed without considering if it is beneath us or if it will benefit us in some way.

Goodness is virtuous or beneficence. In the same way that the works of the flesh overlap, the fruits of the Spirit overlap. Goodness is doing good because you have an opportunity to do so. It is selfless and generous.

Faithfulness is constancy in Christian living and truth - fidelity. One of God's great attributes is His faithfulness to His character and to us. The fruits of the Spirit are naturally like the very character and descriptions of God. After all, it is His Spirit we are talking about.

²³ *gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.* Galatians 5:23 Gentleness is an under-emphasized attribute (2 Corinthians 10:1^{xli}; Galatians 6:1^{xlii}; Ephesians 4:2^{xliii}) In Philippians 4:5^{xliiv} we are told our gentleness should be evident to all (Colossians 3:12^{xlv}). And in 1 Timothy 6:11^{xlvi} we are told to pursue gentleness. Gentleness counters the harshness we face in the world. It can de-escalate strife.

Self-control is being able to hold back - temperance. I personally apply it most to the tongue and use of time. Acts 24:25^{xlvii} applied self-control to lustful desire.

The law does not forbid any of these fruits of the Spirit, so if our life in the Spirit results in these qualities, we will be in accord with the law (instruction) of God. Paul may be referring back to 5:14 that tells us love fulfills the law. This fruit that the Spirit works through our lives when we cooperate with Him surpasses the requirements of the law.

²⁴ *And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.* Galatians 5:24 This is central to Christian living (Romans 6:6^{xlviii}; Galatians 2:20^{xlix}). Jesus took our sins and changed our hearts, but the sinful nature doesn't give up easily. Those who belong to Christ have nailed that old nature to the cross. That is what we declare when we go under the water of baptism- the old has died. However, James asks the believers where the quarrels and fights come from among us. He answers, "from your desires that battle within you" (James 4:1^l). This very passage (verses 16,17^{li}) tells us that we must live/walk in the Spirit to keep the desires of the flesh from hindering this new life. In the Greek it is aorist active tense, meaning we took action, but we must

continually take that action, screwing the lid down on the coffin of the carnal nature as it keeps trying to arise like a zombie to hinder our fruitfulness in Christ.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Galatians 5:25
Since the Spirit is our new life, we must keep in step with Him, or as Jesus said, "Abide in Me" (John 15:4,5^{lii}). We are in a war! Don't let yourself get out of sync with the Spirit by giving the flesh your attention. Refuse that old nature's suggestions. When you catch yourself giving in, do the opposite. When tempted to murmur, let Jesus prompt a song in your heart. When tempted to be lazy, ask Him to direct you to which passage in the Word study or a person you can serve. When enmity or jealousy arises, let His love help you forgive and the leading of the Spirit to pray for the person. In every temptation pray and ask God to help you keep in step with the Spirit. Let the life of Jesus in you respond.

I heard the testimony of a heroin addict in New York who was saved. Each time the dealer would knock on his door, though determined to stop, he would yield and buy more. Finally, he said he found the answer. "When the knock came, I started asking Jesus to get it." That's how we find victory. We let Jesus do the work in and through us. We live by the Spirit and follow His lead, keeping in step with Him!

This is the instruction the Galatians needed to avoid the false teaching and temptations they faced. It was conforming to the Spirit rather than conforming to the law. It was fruit instead of works, life instead of death.

²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.
Galatians 5:26 Paul ends this thought with an example of what allows the flesh to rise up, being conceited, and provoking or envying someone. We should be thankful that others in the body have the gifts that they have - not envious of them. Don't argue minor issues with others or challenge them in your pride. Much of our fleshly response is in relation to being with others. The friction in the body helps us see where we need to be shaped to better work together or humble ourselves to let others lead.

The correct attitude to other people is not 'I'm better than you and I'll prove it', nor is it 'You're better than I and I resent it', but 'You are a person of importance in your own right (because God made you in His own image and Christ died for you) and it is my joy and privilege to serve you'.^{liii} That is the Spirit expressing love for the bride of Christ through us.

How do we experience this life within us? How can we strengthen our spiritual legs to keep in step with the Spirit? How can our hearts burn within us so that this is our constant desire and experience? It is as verse five of this chapter told us, "through the Spirit by faith." We expect to meet Jesus when we open the Word to hear His voice. The more you read, meditate, and memorize God's Word, the more you will be communing with Jesus. We meet Him when we worship together, when we share testimonies, and when we pray or partake of communion. The more we focus our thoughts and desires on Him and His promises, the more we find ourselves in step with the Spirit. The more we are in step with the Spirit the more we find those fruits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control overflowing from our lives which encourages others to experience the same. Does the Holy Spirit have all of you?

Questions: 1 Summarize Paul's teaching to this point. 2 List the works of the flesh in 19 to 21. 3 Why is the flesh works and the Spirit fruit? 4 List the fruits of the Spirit in 22 to 23. 5 Why are they also descriptions of God? 6 Which ones are lacking in your life?

7 Why is there no law against those things? 8 How do we keep in step with the Spirit? 9 What is the correct attitude toward people? 10 Does the Spirit have all of you?

ⁱ **Ephesians 5:32 (ESV)**

³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

ⁱⁱ **Ephesians 5:4 (ESV)**

⁴ Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

ⁱⁱⁱ **2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (ESV)**

⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

^{iv} **Colossians 3:5 (ESV)**

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

^v **Matthew 6:15 (ESV)**

¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

^{vi} **Exodus 34:14 (ESV)**

¹⁴ (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God),

^{vii} **1 Timothy 5:19 (ESV)**

¹⁹ Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.

^{viii} **1 Corinthians 1:10-11 (ESV)**

¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.

^{ix} **Colossians 3:15 (ESV)**

¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

^x **Ephesians 4:19 (ESV)**

¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

^{xi} **Matthew 22:37-39 (ESV)**

³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

^{xii} **Galatians 5:14 (ESV)**

¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

^{xiii} **Romans 13:8-10 (ESV)**

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

^{xiv} **1 John 4:8 (ESV)**

⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

^{xv} **John 3:16 (ESV)**

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

^{xvi} **Song of Songs 2:4 (ESV)**

⁴ He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

^{xvii} **Psalms 36:5 (ESV)**

⁵ Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

^{xviii} **Psalms 36:5** ⁵Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. ^{xviii}

^{xix} **1 Corinthians 13:13 (ESV)**

¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

^{xx} **Psalms 36:7** ⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings:

^{xxi} **Psalm 104:15 (ESV)**

¹⁵ and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart.

^{xxii} **Zechariah 10:7 (ESV)**

⁷ Then Ephraim shall become like a mighty warrior, and their hearts shall be glad as with wine. Their children shall see it and be glad; their hearts shall rejoice in the LORD.

^{xxiii} **Luke 2:10 (ESV)**

¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

^{xxiv} **Luke 24:52 (ESV)**

⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

^{xxv} **1 Peter 4:13 (ESV)**

¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

^{xxvi} **Acts 15:3 (ESV)**

³ So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers.

^{xxvii} **2 John 1:4 (ESV)**

⁴ I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father.

^{xxviii} **Jude 1:24 (ESV)**

²⁴ Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,

^{xxix} **Matthew 25:21 (ESV)**

²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

^{xxx} **Luke 6:23 (ESV)**

²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

^{xxxi} **James 1:2 (ESV)**

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

^{xxxii} **Luke 10:17 (ESV)**

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"

^{xxxiii} **Luke 15:7 (ESV)**

⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous.

^{xxxiv} **John 15:11 (ESV)**

¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

^{xxxv} **John 16:24 (ESV)**

²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

^{xxxvi} **Romans 14:17 (ESV)**

¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

^{xxxvii} **Romans 15:13 (ESV)**

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

^{xxxviii} **1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 (ESV)**

¹⁹ For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?

²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

^{xxxix} **John 14:27 (ESV)**

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

^{xli} **Philippians 4:19 (ESV)**

¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

^{xlii} **2 Corinthians 10:1 (ESV)**

¹ I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!—

^{xlii} **Galatians 6:1 (ESV)**

¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

^{xliii} **Ephesians 4:2 (ESV)**

² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

^{xliiv} **Philippians 4:5 (ESV)**

⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

^{xlv} **Colossians 3:12 (ESV)**

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

^{xlvii} **1 Timothy 6:11 (ESV)**

¹¹ But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

^{xlviii} **Acts 24:25 (ESV)**

²⁵ And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you."

^{xlviii} **Romans 6:6 (ESV)**

⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

^{xlix} **Galatians 2:20 (ESV)**

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

^l **James 4:1 (ESV)**

¹ What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?

^{li} **Galatians 5:16-17 (ESV)**

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

¹⁷ 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.

^{lii} **John 15:4-5 (ESV)**

⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

^{liii} The Bible Speaks Today – The Message of Galatians: Only One Way