

Living in the Spirit leads to Unity

Galatians 5: 13-26

Why do some people always seem to be in conflict?

Paul was battling two issues in Galatians. Living by the Law and Living in the Flesh. Both solutions for Paul was to live in the Spirit.

Judaizers believed that accepting the Law of Moses was necessary to complete your salvation. First you accept Christ and then you accept the Law.

I. All you need is Love - Galatians 5: 13- 15

Paul says all you need is Love.

1. Sacrificial Giving of your Life
2. Inspired by God's spirit.
3. Expressed in doing Good.

II. Living in the Flesh in in conflict with the Spirit – Galatians 5: 16-21`

- Lists of sins and vices are never the complete list when Paul includes in his letters.
- His Lists are based on his audience.

Areas of the Flesh listed

1. Sexual Sins
2. Religious Sins
3. Social Sins
4. Drinking Sins

III. Living in the Spirit Produces Fruit – Galatians 5: 22-26

The problem of when the Bible becomes too important is that we worship the Bible. Theological debates on minor issues become major.

How to live by the spirit:

- Surrender to the Spirit
- Follow the Spirit
- Freedom does not lead to an attitude of “better than others.”
- Spirit leads one to Holiness

IV. Solving Conflict

1. Galatians Conflict involved:
 - a. Theology
 - b. Different Groups of People (Jews vs. Gentiles)
 - c. Gender Issues
 - d. Power between leaders in the church

2. Steps in resolving conflict
 - a. Clarify the Issues
 - b. The Spirit of God is chief in our lives. (surrender)
 - c. Examine what the Bible teaches
 - d. Trust that God’s guidance is sufficient (Arbitrator)
Are we always right? Pursue “what is right and not who is right.

3. 4 ways the Spirit of God Guides
 - a. Circumstances
 - b. Other Christians
 - c. Bible
 - d. Prayer

Conclusion: God’s spirit is a sufficient guide for moral life.

Living in the Spirit brings people closer to God and allows people to live in Christian Fellowship.