

Living Life in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Galations 5:16, 22-25; II Peter 1:3-7

By the power of the Holy Spirit we can overcome our natural tendencies of selfishness, tendencies to completely indulge, give in to all of our passions, emotions, our lusts; by his power we can be partakers of the divine nature of God and live a life pleasing to Him, a life of holiness and goodness and mercy and love. We must submit ourselves to the influence of the Holy Spirit living in us and, thus, cultivate the character of God in our lives. This does not happen passively. We must be active in seeking God's face, adding to our knowledge of God's will as given in His Word, fight with God's strength our inclination toward evil and self-indulgence. The good news is that God has given us everything we need to live a victorious life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gal. 5:16, 22-25 - After giving us the general admonishment to walk in the Spirit, something we can decide to do or not, the Apostle Paul tells us of the works of the flesh compared to the fruit of the Spirit.

v.22 - 25 - He starts with Love, joy peace which are gifts and attributes of God's spirit in us. He gives us love and we show love; he gives us peace and we pursue peace with others; he gives us joy and we are thankful, grateful, and lifted, and strengthened. Longsuffering- patience bearing with difficult people or situations while still maintaining one's composure. Temperance - self-control- being restrained, holding oneself back from acting on evil desires. Kindness - being gracious or generous. Gentleness - using the least amount of force or power needed when dealing with people. Faith - to believe God but also to be loyal to Him and His word.

II Peter 1:3-7 - We are given all that we need by His Spirit in us which enables us to share in the very nature of God. Faith - continues with faithful daily dependence on God. Diligence - doing one's very best with enthusiasm and energy. Virtue - moral excellence,. Knowledge - the truth as God reveals it in His word and by His spirit, this leads us to understanding. Temperance - self-control or to control the passions. Patience - perseverance, the ability to endure difficult things. Godliness - reverence toward God and fellow men. Brotherly kindness - the outworking of our reverence for men. Charity - love, agape, deliberate desire for the highest good in the one loved.