

## ‘Walking in the Spirit’ Gal. 5:16-25

**Introduction:** Our world needs a revolution, the right kind of one. One that will build up, not tear down. One that will propagate love, not hatred. One that will unite, not divide us up into identity groups. One that can restore man to God’s image, not bring us down to the level of the animal world. The greatest revolutionary of all time had a name, Jesus of Nazareth. He came, lived a miraculous life, then He ascended to heaven, but He promised His people that He would not leave us alone. He would send a comforter, the Holy Spirit, to lead and empower us.

### I. Abilities and Characteristics of the Holy Spirit

A. *ill. Life magazine.* Peter and the other disciples were ordinary people. Then one day, their lives were changed. They became men and women of God, bold in their faith. Doubts turned to assurance and joy. They went out and later their \_\_\_\_\_ said of them: ‘*these are the ones who are turning the whole world upside down!*’ Today, that same power is available to you and me, enabling us to live boldly for Christ, to live holy and fruitful lives for God. *ill. J. B. Philips*

B. Who is this that can make such a difference? What does the Bible say? 1. For one, He is not an impersonal force or some vague concept but He has all the traits of a person. He has an intellect 1 Cor. 2:11, a will-1 Cor. 12:11, and emotions-Rom. 15:30. All this is intensely practical for us.

2. The Bible says He performs many actions, such as: He speaks-Rev. 2:7, He teaches- Jn. 14:26, He witnesses- Rom. 8:16, He guides- Rom. 8:14, He convicts-Jn. 16:7,8, He commands- Acts 8:29, He helps-Rom. 8:26, He performs miracles- Acts 8:39, He empowers- Acts 1:8, He helps us bear godly virtues- Gal. 5:22,23, Christians are \_\_\_\_\_ into Him- 1 Cor. 12:13, Rom. 8:9.

3. The Bible also says the Holy Spirit can be obeyed-Acts 10:19, can be lied to-Acts 5:3, can be resisted-Acts 7:51, can be grieved-Eph. 4:30, can be quenched- 1 Thess. 5:9, can be insulted-Heb. 10:29, can be spoken against- Mt. 12:31. These are all acts that can only be done to a person, not some impersonal force. He is real. The Bible also says He is eternal-Heb. 9:14, He is omnipresent- Ps. 139:7, He is omniscient- 1 Cor. 2:10,11, He is omnipotent-Lu. 1:35. On and on the Bible goes describing the Holy Spirit. I would want to encourage you to do your own study, there is so much more to know.

### II. Walking in the Spirit

A. The Christian life, properly understood, is not complex, even a child can live it. But if you try to live the Christian life in your own strength, it will become complex, difficult, even impossible. But if you invite Jesus to live His life through you, if you have surrendered your life to Christ by faith, if you are seeking to walk in the light as He is in the light, then Jesus simply lives His abundant life through you, by the indwelling Holy Spirit, in all His resurrection power. Gal. 2:20.

B. Eph. 5:18: passive tense - this is not something you do but is done to you. You yield your life to Christ by faith and He will fill you with His Holy Spirit. Other good words for ‘*fill*’ here is: guide, empower, control, and lead. This is not a once in a lifetime event, but something that can happen repeatedly. *illus. Yates, Dan. 11:32, Sanctity of Life Sunday, ill. Ray Comfort*

**Conclusion:** The Holy Spirit is the key to revival. He is the key to revival because He is the key to Christians living a revolutionary life and apart from that, man in his own power cannot save our country or fulfill the Great \_\_\_\_\_.

So, join with me in praying for fresh eyes to see the majesty of God at work in our current world and how we can use these new opportunities to usher in a fresh resurgence of God’s power unleashed on the earth, all to the glory, honor and praise of our living God!