Walking in the Flesh or in the Spirit

The New Testament presents a stark contrast between "walking in the Spirit" and "walking in the flesh." The first approach flows in the power of the Holy Spirit. The second approach is dominated by sinful desires. One way of living satisfies your soul and pleases God. The other way of living makes a person restless and is offensive to God. Compare the nine qualities the apostle Paul lists for these two opposite ways of living: A person walking in the Spirit experiences and demonstrates much: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22,23)A person walking in the flesh is dominated by: anger, rage, malice, slander, filthy language, sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and greed. (Colossians 3:5,8).

Humans, by nature, are prone to walk in the flesh. Humans, by virtue of the new birth and the filling of the Spirit through faith in Christ, are given the privilege to walk in the Spirit. When a believer refuses to give into sinful desires, the wellspring of the Holy Spirit continues to flow unhindered in the soul. On the other hand, whenever a believer gives into any of these characteristics of the flesh, it prevents them from living a Spirit-filled life and robs them of Christ's peace in the heart.

The Christian life really isn't very complicated. It just feels complicated at times because of the battle between the flesh and the Spirit. Notice how Paul described this conflict: "So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law." (Galatians 5:16-18)

It is a real battle and it goes on everyday. The only way to walk in the Spirit is to follow Christ in our thoughts, words, and actions. The Holy Spirit empowers us to walk this way. Top of FormThe Christian life has a lot more to do with "impartation" than "imitation." Impartation refers to what God does inside of us.

Do you realize that the physical body of every Christian is actually a temple of the Holy Spirit? God not only left heaven to die on a cross, but God also chooses to dwell within the body of every believer. There are certain types of speech and behavior people wouldn't dream of doing in a church building. And yet, our speech and behavior always takes place "in church." That is, if your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. Paul wrote these words to believers: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." (1 Cor. 6:19,20)

So which will it be for you: walking in the Spirit, or walking in the flesh?

by <u>Dan Delzell</u>, Christian Post

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

Galatians 5:16

November 11, 2018

Worship Leader Sandy Geddes

Pastors
Mark and Sherry Adams
Arthur and Sujani Anantham
Gordon and Dawn Hancock

This Sunday:

10:10am: Pre-Service Prayer. Please come as we agree for the manifestation of God's presence and the accomplishment of His purposes as we gather for worship.

10:30am: Worship and Children's Ministry.
Pastor Mark will be speaking on:

Discipleship 201, Lesson 2: The Flesh vs The Spirit

Children will be dismissed for Children's Church following worship.

A special welcome to our newcomers.

Thank you for joining us this weekend!

Please help us stay in touch with you by completing the newcomers information card and placing it in the offering basket.

This Week:

Monday-October 12th:

12:00pm: Community Drop-In Lunch

Tuesday-October 13th:

7:00pm: Hour of Power Prayer Meeting led by Ray Bassett

Wednesday-October 14th:

12:00pm: Community Drop-In Lunch

Thursday-November 15th:

12:30pm: Family Group

Friday-November 16th:

6:00-7:00pm: Outreach Supper

7:00pm: Community Discipleship 101 Group at Fusion. Everyone

welcome.

Saturday-November 17th:

10:30am-12:00pm: Discipleship 101 Small Group meeting at Adams' house

Announcements

-If you are interested in being part of a six-week small group discipleship experience so that you can become equipped to lead others through Discipleship 101, we will be meeting Saturday mornings, 10:30 – noon, at the home of Pastors Mark and Sherry. The group will run November 10th-December 15th. Pastor Mark, leading.

-Next Sunday, Discipleship 201: The Authority of the Believer, Pastor Sherry teaching.

-If you are not on our email list and would like to be included to receive the weekly bulletin and other announcements by email, please use the sign-up sheet today or see Colleen Saison.

-Pastors Arthur and Sujani will be out of town November 7-21.

-We have a goal of seeing 100 persons come to Christ by the end of the year. If you have the privilege of leading someone to a saving knowledge of Jesus during this time, please record their name in "The Book of Life" on the fireplace and switch on a candle as a symbol of new life in the kingdom. A lit candle on the fireplace means that someone has come to Christ this past week (Acts 2:47).

Christmas Events

Thursday, December 20, 6:30pm: Annual Christmas Dinner for Community Families (by invitation only, volunteers needed). Sunday, December 23, 10:30am: Blacklight Christmas Production

Sunday, December 23, 10:30am: Blacklight Christmas Production Tuesday, December 25, 3:00pm: Community Christmas Day Dinner sponsored by Thrive Ministries and Boardwalk Properties.

Monthly Giving Report

November Giving: \$2,500.00 Monthly Budget: \$9,500.00

Stay Connected

<u>Facebook</u>: Fusion Fellowship Church, Edmonton
<u>Web</u>: www.fusionfellowship.ca
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<u>Email Transfers</u>: giving@fusionfellowship.ca

Encounter Jesus. Equip the Church. Engage the World.