



river west church

Keeping in Step with the Spirit

Galatians 5:16-26

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Gift of the Spirit – Second Miracle of the Gospel

There are two miracles of the Gospel that literally change everything for your life. The first miracle is the Cross of Christ. This is the miracle of what God has done for you through the death of His Son Jesus. Jesus took your place in judgment at the Cross. This was God's plan for your salvation and He has accomplished it on your behalf. But the second miracle of the Gospel is the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is the miracle of what God is doing in you through the presence and power of His Spirit in your heart. This second miracle of the Gospel is the result of (and extension of) the miracle of the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. These two miracles of the Gospel must always be held together in our thinking and in our faith. In order to really experience the power of the Gospel in your life, you must live fully in the truth (and experience) of both. This is why Galatians puts such an emphasis on the Holy Spirit in chapter 5, where the Christian life is described as "walking in the Spirit" and being "led by the Spirit." We also find a great contrast between the "works of the flesh" and the "fruit of the Spirit."

This chapter is a rich guide for us as we seek to live in the freedom that Christ has purchased for us! Below you will find three themes that will help you learn to "walk in the Spirit," and so experience the freedom and fullness of life that God intends for your life – through the Gospel. Take some notes as you listen to the message today. But do more than that! Pray. Open your heart to the Holy Spirit. Know that the Lord wants to do a deep work in your life through His Spirit in your heart.

Always pay attention to your heart

Always trust in God's presence and power at work in your heart

Most of all, always focus on Jesus