

## LIVING BY THE SPIRIT

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Woodland Church

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*“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.”* (Galatians 5:22–25, NLT)

### 1. The Problem with relationships.

*“Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.”* (Galatians 5:26, NLT)

- a. The problem of superiority.
- b. The problem of inferiority.
- c. No one wants to be ignored.
- d. The problem is sin extracts the life out of you.

*“Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.”* (Galatians 5:26, KJV 1900)

*“For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.”* (Galatians 5:13, NLT)

*“But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.”* (Galatians 5:15, NLT)

### 2. The Biblical Understanding of Love is to Serve.

- a. Be generous with your love. (1 John 4:19)
- b. Be generous with your forgiveness. (Colossians 3:13)
- c. Be generous with your giving. (2 Corinthians 8:8-15)
- d. Be generous with your kindness. (Titus 3:4-8)

3. The World's Understanding of Love is to Eat. (Ephesians 2:1-3)

“To us a human is primarily food; our aim is the absorption of its will into ours, the increase of our area of selfhood at its expense. ... We want the cattle who can finally become food; He wants servants who finally become sons. We want to suck in, He wants to give out. We are empty and would be filled; He is full and flows over.”

- *Screwtape Letters*, C. S. Lewis, Chapter XVIII, p 15

4. Live by and follow the Holy Spirit.

*“Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.”* (Galatians 5:25, NLT)