



prayer *life!*

Weekly Prayer Focus

July 24, 2022

Now, That's the Spirit!

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. —Galatians 5:1, 5, 13-14

The Christian life of isn't performed. It's received—just like our salvation. The solution to the mystery of the ages is that the character, behavior, and lifestyle every person knows we must follow is humanly impossible. This is the agonizing failure of our race. Every religion prescribes good behavior and holds up moral ideals, but the Christian receives and lives the righteousness of Christ by faith alone.

Paul puts it like this: *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them* (Ephesians 2:8-10). A Christian is saved by grace, through faith, unto good works. It's all from God.

Jesus said essentially the same thing in different words: *Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. ... How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil* (Matthew 12:33-35).

It's not that Christians don't strive, but we live by the power and at the direction of the only perfect person who's ever lived, trusting in the Holy Spirit whom He sent to live within all who believe in Jesus Christ. Paul contrasts living in our own strength by relying on the Holy Spirit in Galatians 5.

Living by the Flesh means ...

- Being enslaved to the law (5:1)
- Required to keep the whole law (5:2)
- Bound by rituals (5:6a)
- Severed from Christ and fallen from grace (5:4)
- Operating as the world does (5:7-8)
- Biting, devouring, and consuming others (5:15)
- Gratifying the desires of the flesh (5:16)
- Conceited, provoking and envying others (5:26)

Walking in the Spirit means ...

- Living free in Christ (5:1, 2)
- Living in the hope of righteousness (5:5b)
- Faith works through love (5:6b)
- Being confident in the Lord (5:10a)
- Being an offense to the world (5:11)
- Free to serve others through love (5:13-14)
- Doing what we deeply desire to do (5:17b)
- Living in step with the Holy Spirit (5:25)

By Their Fruit:

Jesus said, *Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits* (Matthew 7:15-20).

What human effort produces: *Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God* (Galatians 5:18-21).

What the Spirit of God produces: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law* (Galatians 5:22-23).

Jesus makes the believer new, so we can live a new life to the praise of His glory.

Continued Daily Bible Reading

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bible in 1 Year	Proverbs 16-18	Proverbs 19-21	Proverbs 22; Galatians 1-3	Galatians 4-6	Isaiah 1-3	Isaiah 4-6	Isaiah 7-9
Year 1	Numbers 32	Numbers 33	Numbers 34	Numbers 35	Numbers 36	Deuteronomy 1	Deuteronomy 2
Year 2	Psalms 53-54	Psalms 55	Psalms 56	Psalms 57-58	Psalms 59-60	Psalms 61-63	Psalms 64-65
Year 3	Jeremiah 17	Jeremiah 18	Jeremiah 19	Jeremiah 20	Jeremiah 21	Jeremiah 22	Jeremiah 23

Prayers for Our Time

- Ask God to show the world what true freedom is through the lives of His people.
- Pray for revival in the Church world-wide, so we'll turn millions to Christ as Savior and Lord.
- *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!* (Psalm 122:6), as Israel and all the world come to know that Jesus Christ is LORD.

Daily Prayer

Sunday (Church): Pray for Amber McEwen, Director of Women's Ministries, to lead and teach the women of Northpoint to seek God in His Word and prayer, to see Him at work in their lives and families.

Monday (Home and Family): Pray for your spouse and children, or your closest friends, to display Christ's character, so His holiness, love, and joy will draw others to Him.

Tuesday (Job/School): Pray for leaders, coworkers and friends at work or school to come to know Christ and His love.

Wednesday (Neighborhood and Community): Pray for the salvation of those you interact with in the community: neighbors, workers at stores, gas stations, and other places you visit.

Thursday (Our Nation): Pray for God to turn the heart of our nation to Himself. May we repent of the idolatry of materialism, self-reliance, and self-indulgence.

Friday (The World): Pray for Northpoint's local and world outreach to strengthen His Church, by winning people to Christ, and building them up in Him.

Saturday (Praise and Rejoicing): Give Thanks for the beauty of His creation and the countless ways He shows you His love.

Prayer for Our Leaders

Pray for God's hand to be with our leaders at Northpoint, to keep them from harm, give them success, and make our church grow.

1. **Our Pastors and Directors:** Tony Chute, Taylor Mendoza, Tamene Menna, Terilyn Brown, Steve Dahlgren, and Amber McEwen.
2. **Our Lay Elders:** Woody Armstrong, Steve Flood, Craig Hawkins, Perry Schaefer, and Vinoj Zechariah.
3. **Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, John Cordill, Colin Cordill, Megan Cordill, Laura Flood, Noah Gauderman, Nolan Golightly, Carolee Jefferson, Nick Juarez, Cade MacRitchie, Sam Nguyen, Lauren Sanner, Corie Saunders, Dani Tiqui, Micah Valdez, Tyler Van Horssen, Christina Vasquez, and Holli Worthington.

Power to Love

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God –1st Peter 1:22-23