

Bible Study 1 – Holy Spirit dependence – Galatians 5:16-18

In a tug-of-war two teams strain with all their might, trying to pull the other across the line. The middle of the rope shifts back and forth, depending on who's stronger in the moment. That's a picture of the conflict within every believer. On one side, the flesh pulls us toward selfishness, sin, and shortcuts. On the other, the Spirit pulls us toward holiness, obedience, and freedom in Christ. It's not a peaceful coexistence—it's a struggle, a daily tension. This passage helps us understand this inner battle and how we can live in victory—not by trying harder in our own strength, but by living by the Spirit, who empowers us to overcome.

The context	The book of Galatians counters the claims of legalists who were telling the Galatian Christians to keep the law of Moses and circumcise males in order to be saved. He rebukes them for following “a different gospel” (1:6-10). Then he defended his role as an apostle to the Gentiles (1:11-2:21). Then he gives doctrine about how salvation is through trusting Christ's sacrificial death and not doing good works (Ch. 3-4). Finally, he gives the practical application of the doctrine (5:1-6:10).
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PART 1 Read & write each section in your own words – Galatians 5:16-18

A command (v16a)	
A promise (v.16b)	
Spiritual conflict – Part 1 (v.17)	
Spiritual conflict – Part 2 (v.18)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What does it teach about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?

2. What does it teach about people?



3. Summarize a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what is the main point being taught in this passage?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. How will your daily life look different if you practice daily dependence on the Holy Spirit?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

There is a war going on within Christians – they have two opposing desires. When the Holy Spirit directs our life, we will not follow the desires of our sinful nature. Dependence on the Holy Spirit every moment of every day is a foundational spiritual practice of the Christian life.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you or causing stress.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points

