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Paul's View on Sin, Part 2

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Galatians 5:16-26 ¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh craves what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are opposed to each other, so that you do not do what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and sorcery; hatred, discord, jealousy, and rage; rivalries, divisions, factions, ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since we live by the Spirit, let us walk in step with the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying one another. (BSB)

This is a continuation of last week's message.

I. Here are some additional details of this passage.

- A. Paul is calling us to **change** our view of what it means to sin. V.16-19
- B. It is obvious if you are not letting the Holy Spirit **control** you. V.20-21
- C. Continual **practice** of these sins show that you are not saved. V.21
- D. There are **behaviors** that reveal our faith to others. V.22-23
- E. Our salvation is not just praying a certain prayer. It is also a **commitment** to crucifying our sinful flesh. V. 24
- F. We must keep in step with the Spirit of God. He is **leading** us somewhere, we must be **obedient** to follow. V.25
- G. The quickest gauge of this is examining how we **treat** others. V.26

II. Why are these truths so important?

- A. We must be identified as children of God by our **actions** not by our profession alone.
- B. The fruit of the Spirit should be **noticed** by those around us, ask them if this is true of us.
- C. A refusal to repent of fleshly behavior is a **warning** sign that we cannot ignore in ourselves.
- D. **Stop** and **listen** to what the Holy Spirit has been telling you. Not hearing Him should be another warning sign to you.
- E. Seek **forgiveness** to those whom you have not been loving towards.