

HOW CAN I LIVE THE LIFE I WANT?  
“Does He Give Fruit, Also?”

7/25/2010

Galatians 5:16-26

**“You crazy Galatians! Did someone put a hex on you? Have you taken leave of your senses? Something crazy has happened, for it’s obvious that you no longer have the crucified Jesus in clear focus in your lives. His sacrifice on the Cross was certainly set before you clearly enough.”**

**“Let me put this question to you: How did your new life begin? Was it by working your heads off to please God? Or was it by responding to God’s Message to you? Are you going to continue this craziness? For only crazy people would think they could complete by their own efforts what was begun by God. If you weren’t smart enough or strong enough to begin it, how do you suppose you could perfect it?”**

**(Galatians 3:1-3 The Message)**

1. LIVING *IN* THE SPIRIT.

**“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives...”**

A. Fruit is *Recognizable*.

**“Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.”  
(Matthew 7:20 NLT)**

B. Fruit is *Reflective*.

**“You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? A good tree produces good fruit and a bad tree produces bad fruit.” (Matthew 7:16-17 NLT)**

C. Fruit is *Reproductive*.

**Fruit is always meant for someone else’s enjoyment!**

2. LIVING *BY* THE SPIRIT.

**“So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives.” (Galatians 5:16)**

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

- A. Walking Assumes Movement by *Choice*.
- B. Walking Assumes *Continuous* Movement.
- C. Walking Assumes *Confident* Movement.

CONCLUSION:

**“Don’t be misled---you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.”**

**“So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.” (Galatians 6:7-9 NLT)**