

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-26

I. We are reminded that there is a _____ for control of our hearts. (16-17) 1 John 2:16

1. Being led by the Spirit means I live trusting God to direct my life. (18); Romans 8:4-5

**II. Paul lists the _____. (19-21)
Romans 6:11-14**

III. _____ in the Spirit produces the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. (22-23)

1. The first three qualities express the Godward aspect of the Christian life. John 15:10-11; Isaiah 61:10; Romans 14:17.

2. The next three fruits express the manward aspect of the Christian life:

3. The final three qualities are selfward: James 4:7

IV. In order to walk in the Spirit the flesh must be _____. (24-26)

1. I must apply the power of the cross to my life. Psalm 37:4-6 Luke 9:23

2. I must allow the Holy Spirit to be my guide. Romans 8:5; John 14:26-27

Thought for the day Another week in 2020. We've seen a political convention, another police shooting, demonstrations in the streets, rioting and murders in the major cities, fires burning large areas of our forest, and a major hurricane devastating our land. Professional athletes refused to play in attempt to make people take notice of racial injustice. The problem is everyone is talking loudly but no one has a solution. The message today is *Walking in the Spirit vs. Walking in the flesh*. America is trying to solve its problems using the flesh. In Matthew gospel Jesus had just delivered a man from demonic possession. Observe the response **Matthew 12:24-25** ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard *it*, they said, This *fellow* doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. ²⁵ And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: ²⁶ And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? Can our nation be anymore divided? Paul tells us believers when we yield to the Spirit God will produce fruits of the Spirit in our lives. The answer to hatred is love, the answer to confrontation and war is peace but these are all tools of the Spirit and not tools of the flesh. God's people are praying, we are trying but have turned from our desire to follow the flesh. In Amos Chapter 4, God tells the people in some places I sent famine (economic shutdown), others pestilence (Cornovirus), fire (California), burning cities (rioting in major cities), crop failures and there was a phrase repeated: Yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD. Maybe God is saying I am the only solution and the only way to stand is to stand united in the truth of Gods word. Gods people must walk in the Spirit. **Pastor Bruce**