

Romans 8:6 (NKJV)  
6 For those who live according to the flesh will set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

Make time to be spiritual!  
Play with the same deep sincerity as when you first believed

If we're too busy to take time to be spiritual, perhaps we should offload some unnecessary activity. We should ask ourselves, is obedience to God's word necessary?

## Practicing Faith; until it becomes second nature

### Quick review

What energizes the spiritual walk?

The believer's energy source to live the supernatural spiritual life is:

1. The word of God
2. The Holy Spirit

**walking in the Spirit** or being led by the Spirit; **has nothing to do with my abilities** and everything to do with a clear objective path laid out in the word of God.

Colossians 3:16-25 (NKJV)

active, imperative

5 promise

16 I say to you, **walk in the Spirit** and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Same results

Colossians 3:16-21 (NKJV)

Walking together

16 Let the **WORD** of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.  
17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.  
18 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.  
19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.  
20 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is just pleasing to the Lord.  
21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

Ephesians 5:18-26 (NKJV)

passive, imperative

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the **SPIRIT**,  
19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,  
20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
21 submitting to one another in the fear of God  
22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.  
23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.  
24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.  
25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,  
26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

The course of action is laid out in front of us by:

A **1st stage condition**: (if it agrees it's true) the result (should occur)

18 But, **if you are led by the Spirit**, you are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,  
21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.  
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.  
24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

All pagan religions trust in the subjective inner feelings and opinions, believed to have been inspired by the Spirit.

Only Christianity has 1. the verifiable objective evidence of creation, which is visible to all; and 2. signs and wonders performed in the site of multitudes, and testified of by multitudes, to validate the revealed word that followed.

Which is a clear source of action

If it was anything other than the word of God, that has so much corroborating evidence clearly validating its accuracy, it would be received without question!!

Our forward momentum has direction! It's called truth

20 **If we live in the Spirit**, let us also **walk in the Spirit**, **walk by means of the Spirit**

God's methods are based on thinking, there's based on reason and logic. They're not based on emptying the mind, the worldly view of meditation, but on filling the mind with the clear objective truth revealed in the word of God

John 14:11 (NKJV)  
11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

To think, evaluate, concentrate, study and focus

### Scriptures identifying the WORD with power:

1 Thessalonians 5:8, Hebrews 1:2, Hebrews 6:12.

### Scriptures identifying the HOLY SPIRIT with power:

Romans 15:13, Romans 15:14-25, 1 Corinthians 3:1-15

### Conclusion:

Colossians 1:15-18

17 and he is before all things and in Him all things consist.

All things, including the believer is not sustained by his own efforts but by the power of God which is in Christ Jesus

## Faith

Faith is non-meritorious, all the merit lies in the object of that faith

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Faith, in and of itself, as the Bible defines it, is never isolated. It's always directed towards something

When we were saved (it wasn't) because we had faith in faith, but we had faith in something.

It was the object of that faith that we believed, which was Christ.

We believed the message that Jesus Christ died for our sins, and that if we would put our faith alone in Christ alone, he would save us from eternal damnation, and give us eternal life.

So as in 2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight

If we're walking by sight, there's forward momentum toward something. That something is man's limited resources of reason and spiritual capabilities.

If we're walking by means of faith, we're headed in a specific direction.

Walking is forward momentum, and the object of our faith "the word of God" is the direction of that forward momentum.

Walking by faith

We are walking by means of confidence and trust, in the context of what's believed, which is the energy source for the believer (the revealed word)

The faith is simply the conduit, the pipeline through which the work of the object, or the significance, principle, or the truth of the object is applied.

Faith for the Christian walk:

The faith that moves us forward in the Christian life is focused on certain statements, propositions, realities of Scripture. And when we believe those principles, or promises or procedures that are specifically stated in Scripture, then that is the means of moving forward.

It is the supernatural energy source for the Christian walk

## The content of our faith:

Without content there's no object for belief, for forward momentum

Claiming a promise that belongs to us:

that means we're taking hold of a **general promise** in the Old Testament or the **specific promises** in the New Testament, and applying them to the circumstances in life.

**General promises**: those promises that are not specifically addressed to the children of Israel and the fulfillment of covenants to them.

Promises not addressed to us:

Hebrews 8:10 (NKJV)

10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Deuteronomy 20:1 (NKJV)

1 "When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the Lord your God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 33:27-29 (ESV)

27 The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms. And he thrust out the enemy before you and said, "Destroy!"  
28 So Israel lived in safety, Jacob lived alone, in a land of grain and wine, whose heavens drop down dew.  
29 Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord, the shield of your help, and the sword of your triumph! Your enemies shall come trembling to you, and you shall tread upon their backs."

Promises:

General promises of the Old Testament:

Psalms 138:22 (NKJV)

22 Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

Isaiah 40:18 (NKJV)

18 Fear not, for I am with you; I'll not be damaged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

Isaiah 12:2 (NKJV)

2 Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation."

Isaiah 35:12 (ESV)

12 "I, I am He who comforts you, who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass,

Psalms 63:7 (NKJV)

7 In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God.

Psalms 91:4 (NKJV)

4 He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

Psalms 36:7 (NKJV)

7 How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings.

Promises specific to the New Testament believer:

Connected with humility:

1 Peter 5:5-6 (NKJV)

5 The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partner of the glory that will be revealed;  
6 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for the lordly gain but eagerly;  
7 not as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;  
8 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Younger in the Lord, older in the Lord

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NKJV)

6 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders, Yes, all of you be **submissive** to one another and be clothed with **humility** for God resists the proud, But (God) gives grace to the humble;

Promise

7 Therefore **humble** yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time

Promise

General Old Testament promises

2 Peter 1:6 (NKJV)

6 **casting all your care upon Him**, for He cares for you

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