Walk by means of the Spirit

1. **How does a Christian grow?**

a. **Walking** by means of the Spirit in conjunction with Holy Bible

Holy Bible is the **Spirit's sword**
- The Word was sent to those Jews who believed Christ, "if you **abide in My word**, you are my disciples indeed" (John 8:31)
- Spirit is not found in the body, and the soul is not found in the spirit.
  - Impure sin who just some is one had, and all need sacrifice to their life
  - Many Christians attribute to God what was their own carnal thoughts, plus things that God never spoke to them, or even worse, what God hates.
  - So we, **truth** can separate him

Many believers are just happy with the fact that they are going to go to heaven, and have no concept of what it means to **grow or advance to spiritual maturity**.

But it's only where they do begin to grow and advance that they can really begin to live, operate, and benefit from all the incredible assets God has given us for living this spiritual life.

Do not mix up complete same of three passages to explain, and to create to an understanding of how all these Biblical teachings work together. but **that's the job of the pastor teacher**.

And it's through this process that God has designed for this church, so that we can all grow and mature and begin to learn what it means to walk by means of the Spirit.

But we all must do our level best to function in the capacity that the church was designed by God to function in.

Ephesians 4:11, 12 (NKJV)
11 And **He Himself gave some to be** apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some **pastors and teachers**,
12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,
Both we, all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Christians who are no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men and craftiness, by which they lie in wait to deceive.

Which **speaking the truth** in love, **may grow up in all things** into Him who is the head, of Christ.
Ephesians 4:14 (NKJV)
14 That we should be no more children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and craftiness of those who lie in wait to deceive.

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God's command for Christian growth :

Making sure you are in fellowship is not the goal of the spiritual life:

The goal of the spiritual life, according to this passage in Galatians 5, is to maintain that fellowship.

And that's accomplished through the effect of Jesus's resurrection, **knowing and living out doctrine**, and that is expressed by this metaphor

Galatians 5:16, 17 (NKJV)
16 I say, then: **Walk in the Spirit** and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.
17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

Christians who do not become mature believers, choose not to:

Romans 8:5-8 (NKJV)
5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh; but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.
6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace,
7 because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.
8 So those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

b. How the different aspects of **Sanctification** relate to the spiritual walk:

Based on the Greek word **hagiazomai**, which means to be set apart

Romans 6:1, 2 (NKJV)
1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?
2 God forbid. How shall we who died to sin live any longer therein?
Romans 6:3 (NKJV) 3 Or do you not know that as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?
4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Phase 1: sanctification are are indeed positionally separated from the power of the sin nature, which is the theme for phase two.

Phase 2: We are no longer slaves to the sin nature. That means that as a believer you now have the option not to live living under the power of the sin nature.

Phase 3: we are saved from the presence of the sin nature and this is called **ultimate sanctification**

- Positional Sanctification
- Experiential or Progressive Sanctification
- Ultimate Sanctification

c. Walking operates on a couple different principles in terms of Greek grammar.

These are represented by the preposition EN, and the grammatical category is the **EN** where the **dative** sphere

The preposition **EN** is used in the **sphere** of light, where a mode or **sphere** of **truth**

Romans 13:11 (NKJV)
11 And do this, knowing the time, that it is already time to awake out of sleep, for our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

Ephesians 5:8 (NKJV)
8 For you were once darkness, but now are you light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

1 John 1:6 (NKJV)
6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

We are also to walk in the **sphere** of **light** and **your** sense of **reality**, and in the realm or sphere of **truth**

d. Truth is the revelation of **light** it is exclusive to God alone:

Light represents absolute perfection in Scripture, the holiness of God.

1 Timothy 6:15, 16 (NKJV)
15 which He will show in His own time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
16 who alone has immortality, dwelling in **unapproachable light**; whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

1 John 1:5 (NKJV)
5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you: that **God is light** and in Him there is no darkness at all.

Phrase of light" is a **Hebraism**, a **Hebrew idiom that is brought over into the Greek.**

John 10:10 (NKJV)
10 The thief does not come except to steal, to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Matthew 6:22 (NKJV)
22 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.
23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

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Colossians 1:13 (NKJV)
13 who has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

> *Man Christian, give thy child by all you can, cause you to grow up in the nurture and in the admonition of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

But just because we have that title, that doesn't mean we live consistent with that position.

Romans 13:12 (NKJV)
12 The night is far spent; the day is at hand. **Therefore** let us put off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Therefore is a word that is used to connect two ideas, one **Therefore** is a word that is used to connect two ideas, one

Spiritual Maturity

Spiritual Immaturity

The implication is that some believers are still producing the deeds of darkness and these needs to be a transformation.

James 1:19 - 24(KJV)
19 Therefore let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:
20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.
21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save **your souls**.
22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.
23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:
24 For he beholdeth himself, and goes his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

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The Christian life is not a passive life, **it's an active life in terms of our volition.**

It is passive in the sense that we are going to allow God to create in us life, but we have to exercise our volition and **make a decision, and God is not going to override your decisions.**

That is the emphasis of the **subjunctive**, and it functions as an imperative.

The **middle voice** indicates that the believer participates in the results of the action.

It is not only the performer of the action but participates in its results.

Middle voice is a **middle voice** between the active voice and the passive voice.

the **active voice**	means the subject **acting** on the object of the verb.
the **passive voice**	means the subject **receiving** the action of the verb.

In Greek, not only is there an active voice and a passive voice, but there is a Greek form for **middle voice**.

It is only a middle voice in terms of grammatical form, not in terms of meaning. Greek has the **middle voice**.

Sanctification is called a **reflexive** verb.

It doesn't always have that implication but that is the primary implication.

So the middle voice here indicates that not only do you make the decision to take off, remove the deeds of darkness, but you benefit from the results.

This actual **subjunctive** is used in a number of passages, and it is rather more emphatic than the indicative mood or imperative. **But it moves beyond contribution to pure continuation application of doctrine.**

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