

Weekly Bible Study for Highcliffe and Bransgore Methodist Churches

Galatians 5:16-25 by Norman Bonnett

Walking in the Spirit w/c 28th June 2020

My dear friends,

Firstly, read the passage and ask yourself **“what is this saying to me?”** In fact, one could say that “walking in the Spirit” embraces everything in the Christian life. Once a commitment to Christ is made one enters a spiritual dimension, a walking with God through the presence of His Holy Spirit, given as a gift from God to all who truly believe.

Ask yourself **“how well do I know God?”** Yes, the “Christian walk” will involve us in a change of habits, of lifestyle, of values and of course behaviour but to be walking in the Spirit is to subject your whole life to the worship and service of God.

The Bible speaks of the Holy Spirit throughout its pages. I remember singing the “Creation” as a 16-year-old and I remember especially that the Bible tells us that the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the water (Gen. 1:2). There are many concepts of the Spirit throughout the Bible, here are some, perhaps you can name others.

Breath: John 20:20, Fire: Heb. 3:11, Wind: John 3:8, Rain: Hosea 6:3, Deposit: 2 Cor. 5:5.

Having read them, **“what is common to them all?”**

I suggest three steps you may like to take if you feel you are not yet “walking in the Spirit”, yet really desire to be so.

1. Ask God, in prayer, to bring you to a personal experience of His Spirit in your life.
2. Find a regular daily quiet time to spend in prayerful concentration upon the Word of God.
3. Use a Bible reading scheme (there is one in the UCB Word for Today) or/and join with others to regularly seek God’s specific word for you.

I still find the use of a Bible reading scheme and the sharing of God’s word with others to be an enormous blessing in my Christian life. Just like eating and breathing, you never tire or outgrow this most important feature and nourishing of the Christian life. There are many excellent examples of Bible reading schemes, I am very happy to help you as will Phil or visit our wonderful Christian Bookshop in Bournemouth -it is now open. Perhaps join with a friend or two and keep accountable to each other and discuss your progress.

May God lead and bless you.

Norman