

another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

"For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself." (v. 3)

How does conceit (and *not* walking by the Spirit) affect this scenario?

- **by taking personal responsibility to test your own work** (vv. 4-5)

What is the scenario?

"...each one (has) **his own work**..."

What is Paul's encouragement?

"...let each one test his own work..."

Who?

"...each one...his own...himself..."

What?

"...test his own work..."

"On the one hand, believers who are marching in step with the Spirit must who concern for others....On the other hand, believers are responsible before God individually for their own lives." (Schreiner, p. 361)

(5:19-24) "...the works of the flesh...the fruit of the Spirit..."

(v. 3) *not* being deceived by what one "thinks" of himself

(vv. 1-2) *not* comparing oneself by what others may do

Why?

"...and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor."

"For each will have to bear his own load." (v. 5)

(v. 8) deferred and pure boasting at the judgment seat of Christ

How does conceit (and *not* walking by the Spirit) affect this scenario?

Conceit and...walking by the Spirit. Conceit and...walking with one another.

"What it means to follow the Spirit is to live in community with others, to care for the needs of others....Life in the Spirit is community life." (pp. 361, 363)

Sunday, August 30, 2026
Danny Capon, *Pastor*

Making Headway Together
Walking by the Spirit with One Another
Galatians 5:25-6:5

Introduction

Headway...

What it is, and who it's for

What we are trying to do, and why

Making headway together...

Is walking by the Spirit an individual pursuit?

Is the struggle against sin an individual pursuit?

We must walk by the Spirit with one another in humility.

ESV **Galatians 5:25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. ^{6:1} Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵ For each will have to bear his own load.

What?

"If we **live** by the Spirit..."

ESV **Galatians 2:20** I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God, for if justification¹ were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

ESV **Galatians 3:1** O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ² Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by¹ the flesh? ⁴ Did you suffer¹ so many things in vain - if indeed it was in vain? ⁵ Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith - ⁶ just as Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"?

"...let us also **walk** by the Spirit."

(5:16) walk (*peripateo*) by the Spirit...

(5:18) led (*ago*) by the Spirit...

(5:25) walk (*stoicheo*, “keep in step”) by the Spirit...

How?

“Let us not become **conceited**...”

What is conceit?

(6:3) “...if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing...”

to think much of self; to think of self much

How do you know you're conceited? Well, how do you actually behave?

How can conceit manifest itself among one another?

“...provoking one another...”

to challenge, irritate, aggravate, goad, etc.

“...envying one another...”

“From pride also comes envy, so that one is embittered at the success and happiness of others, or one rejoices at the misfortunes of others.” (Thomas R. Schreiner, p. 357)

How do we walk by the Spirit with one another in humility?

i.e. to be humble means to do these things

- **by pursuing restoring those caught in sin** (v. 1)

What is the scenario?

“...if anyone is **caught in any transgression**...”

What is Paul's encouragement?

“...you who are spiritual should **restore** him...”

Who?

“...you who are **spiritual**...”

“The ‘spiritual’ do not constitute an elite group of Christians, nor does Paul restrict himself to a portion of the congregation. All of the Galatians received the Spirit when they heard the message of the gospel (3:2, 5). They enjoy Abraham's blessing, for they have received the promise of the Spirit (3:14). God has given them his Spirit because they are his sons (4:6), and they live by the Spirit (5:25). Therefore, as those who are walking by the Spirit (5:16), are led by the Spirit (5:18), and are keeping in step with the Spirit (5:25), they are to reestablish those who have fallen.” (Schreiner, p. 358)

(5:16) “...walk by the Spirit...”

justified by faith (not works of the law), perfected by faith (2:11-16)

freed from the law, freed to fulfill the law (5:1-15)

What?

“...should **restore** him...”

“It could simply mean detected in sin by others, but it seems more likely that it denotes one who has been overtaken in sin by surprise. Even though believers have life in the Spirit, they still inhabit this present evil age (1:4), and hence sin attacks them in unanticipated ways. Paul is not suggesting that those who commit such trespasses are simply unwilling victims. They bear full responsibility for their sins. Still, Paul envisages situations in which believers sin in unplanned and unexpected ways—hence, the need for restoration.” (Schreiner, p. 357)

(6:1) “...who are spiritual...”

How?

“...in a spirit of gentleness.”

“...keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.”

How does conceit (and *not* walking by the Spirit) affect this scenario?

- **by seeking to bear the burdens of others with them** (vv. 2-3)

What is the scenario?

“...**one another** (has) **burdens**...”

What is Paul's encouragement?

“...**bear** one another's burdens...”

Who?

“...one another...”

What?

“...bear...burdens...” (See 6:1, 6, 10, 17, and 5:13)

Why?

“...and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

^{ESV} **Galatians 5:13** For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one