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Monday

Prov. 2:5-6 Then you will discern the fear of the LORD And discover the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

In life, attitude is not everything, but it is a key to many things. So your attitude will make a great deal of difference as you encounter the word of God. If your attitude is "this is God's word to me spoken out of His love for me" then the word of God will dwell richly in you stirring you, growing you, convicting and changing you. If your attitude is "these are rules and I don't like rules" then the word will burden you and you will not likely find God's riches at all. Do you joyfully embrace the word? Do you gladly hear it? It can be delightful to you and nourish you with its Spirit? Attitude — your attitude toward God's word — will be the key.

Tuesday

Gal. 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Here is the promise of daily victory. Here is the plan for overcoming life. Here is the freedom from worry and freedom to soar. As you allow Jesus to control your thoughts, your plans, your desires, and your actions you walk in victory. Someone correctly said, "You receive all of the Holy Spirit that you will ever receive the day you become a believer. The question is not how much of the Spirit do you have, but *how much of you does the Spirit have?*" Who is in control of your life?

Wednesday

Gal. 5:17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

It is said that the battle between the flesh and Spirit is like two dogs perpetually in a fight. Which one wins? "The one we feed the most." The flesh corresponds to that base nature that still resides within us. The Spirit corresponds to the Holy Spirit who now abides in every believer. The two war within the life of the Christian. You have felt it in your own life. So which one wins in the battles of the day? The one you feed the most. How do you walk victoriously in Christ? Feast upon God's word, make worship, both private and corporate, a priority, and submit yourself to the Holy Spirit as He teaches, convicts, and strengthens you.

Thursday

Gal. 5:19, 22 The deed of the flesh are evident...But the fruit of the Spirit is ...

'Fruits of the Spirit' and 'deeds of the flesh' are not so much actions or attitudes which you control, as they are indicators of *who is in control of you*. To the extent that the Spirit is in control of you, you bear the fruits of the Spirit. To the extent that your base nature is allowed to rule, you lack the Spirit's fruit and exhibit the deeds of the flesh. If you recognize that a 'deed of the flesh' is rising in your life, you know immediately that Jesus is not Lord of that area. Likewise, if you find yourself lacking some fruit of His Spirit, you are not allowing the Lord to control your life. Confess your lack of surrender and recommit yourself to Jesus. Be specific: for example are you lacking peace? Renew your trust in God. Are you lacking joy? Renew your priorities and count your blessings.

Friday

Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is ... self-control.

So here is the truth of the matter. Only the power of the Spirit resident and in charge gives the believer the ability of positive self-control. Lost tempers, lost battles with temptation, lost opportunities all reside in a person's lack of self-control. The lack of self-control is an indicator of the lack of submission to the Lordship of Jesus and the Spirit's control of our lives. Do you need more self-control, then allow the Spirit to have more control of your life. Try it; you'll like it.