

Galatians 5:25 (niv) "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."

KEEPING IN STEP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

To "*keep in step with the Spirit*" suggests that we follow and are in rhythm with the Holy Spirit's promptings and leading.

Meaning, we don't run ahead through impatience or to lag behind because of indecision.

Rather, that we are in sync or in step with the Holy Spirit.

THE WORD AND HOLY SPIRIT WORK BEST TOGETHER

To *live by the Spirit* and keeping *in step with the Spirit* is to follow His leading and assistance in obeying and applying God's standards in our daily lives

The Word is the **substance** that the Holy Spirit uses to guide us and to bring about our spiritual transformation.

The Word reveals God's truth, and the Holy Spirit brings it to life in believers.

HEAR AND DO

Revelation 2:7 (niv) “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

To *keep in step with the Spirit*, is to seek His guidance and to listen to His voice in all aspects of life.

There needs to be a response to the Holy Spirits voice and direction.

*James 1:22-25 (gw) Do what God’s word says. Don’t merely listen to it, or you will fool yourselves. ²³ If someone listens to God’s Word but doesn’t do what it says, he is like a person who looks at his face in a mirror, ²⁴ studies his features, goes away, and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ However, the person who continues to study God’s perfect laws that make people free and who remains committed to them will be blessed. People like that don’t merely listen and forget; **they actually do what God’s laws say.***

Hearing is not enough; we must **activate** and **do** what we hear to reap its blessing and benefits.

JESUS’ RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Philippians 2:5b-8 (gw) ...although He was in the form of God and equal with God, He did not take advantage of this equality. Instead, **He emptied Himself**, by taking on the*

*form of a servant, **by becoming like other humans**, by having a human appearance. He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, death on a cross.*

“*He emptied Himself*” means that Jesus voluntarily laid aside His heavenly attributes and limited Himself only to such abilities that are natural to any other human.

Although Jesus was fully aware of His divine identity, He voluntarily chose to act within the perimeters of human nature and ability.

As a man, Jesus endured the same temptations to sin and mastered them with the same weapons that are available to us.

- Prayer: *Mathew 6:5-15* Jesus instructs the disciples how to pray.
- God's Word: “*It is written*” four times in *Luke 4* Jesus neutralises Satan's temptations.
- Holy Spirit Baptism: *Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit to go out into the wilderness. Luke 4:1 (nlt)*



If Jesus needed the ability power of the Holy Spirit, how much more do we!

There was a vital relationship between Jesus and the Holy Spirit throughout His life and ministry.

- Jesus was born by the Holy Spirit
(*Matthew 1:20*)
- Jesus' ministry was empowered by the Holy Spirit (*Luke 4:18*)
- Jesus suffered and died through the enabling of the Holy Spirit (*Hebrews 9:14*)
- Jesus was raised from the dead by the Holy Spirit (*Romans 1:4; 8:11*)
- In His ascension, Jesus gifted the Holy Spirit to the Church (*Acts 2:33*)

This relationship continues today between the Holy Spirit and the Body of Christ – you and I!

Galatians 5:24-25 (nlt) *Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there.*

We must daily nail our sinful tendencies to the cross of Christ and draw from the Holy Spirit's power to overcome them.

²⁵ *Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.*

Following the leading or keeping in step and in sync with the Holy Spirit empowers us to overcome the desires of sin, which leads to freedom and victory instead of bondage and destruction.

The Holy Spirit guides, convicts, and corrects us, making a life lived in step with Jesus possible.