

FAST Lesson 2D: Real Men Do What God Wants – A New Way of Life

John Kain, 2009

- I. With the presence of the Holy Spirit in our life, we carry the power to overcome our sinful nature each day. We can change – in fact, we will change. We can make a difference.
- II. Change comes as we yield to the directing and empowering ministry of the Holy Spirit by staying in contact – attending to the relationship so that communication happens.
- III. Real men think about God. They think about him often. They are sensitive to his direction.
- IV. Staying close to God in our thought life is not boring. He will keep you moving in a positive direction – his direction becomes your direction. You will be amazed and energized much more often than tired or depressed. Although life is never consistently easy on this earth, you will be happy more often than sad. You will be able to say “wow, I didn’t think I could do that” rather than “there I going doing the same wrong thing again.” You will have the joy of seeing God at work in your life, and it will leave you humble and surprised and rejuvenated for the next steps with him.
- V. A real man keeps pace with God – his identity, his sense of direction, his understanding of right and wrong, and his actions all flow from a mind influenced by the Holy Spirit.

“So I say, **live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.** For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious...But **the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. **Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.** Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.”
(Galatians 5: 16-26)

“One question now to put to test is this: Can we have that contact with God all the time? All the time awake, fall asleep in His arms, and awaken in His presence? Can we attain that? Can we do His will all the time... Or are there periods when business, and pleasures, and crowding companions must necessarily push God out of our thoughts...

Our mind is a flowing something. It oscillates... We always think of the relationship of at least two things, and more often three or more things simultaneously. So my problem is this: **Can I bring the Lord back in my mind-flow every few seconds... I choose to make the rest of my life an experiment in answering that question.**” Frank Laubach, March 23, 1930

“I have found that we can establish ourselves in a sense of the presence of God by continually talking with him. **It is simply a shameful thing to quit conversing with Him to think of trifles and foolish things.**” Brother Lawrence, August 3, 1666