Productive Christianity Galatians 5:13-26

I. Will Freedom Work? - 5:13-18

- Distortion of Liberty 13
 Danger with freedom, it may be abused
 Can become license to gratify our flesh
 This is not pleasing to God who set us free
- Design of Liberty 13-15
 God's plan; free from self to serve others
 Law is fulfilled in loving our neighbor 14
 God's love constrains us to love others
 Focus on self can be destructive -15
 Sinful flesh seeks its own way
 Attacks anyone who gets in its way
- 3. Dvnamic of Liberty 16-18 Sinful man is not capable of living this way God has provided power to live in liberty In new birth He has made our spirit alive Capable of knowing & responding to His truth God's Spirit seeks to encourage & enable us His Spirit produces God's righteousness Challenge is to "walk in the Spirit" - 16 Submit our will to His, follow Spirit's direction Allow Holy Spirit to have control of our lives Our flesh will not agree with the Spirit - 17 Sinful flesh and God's Spirit will be conflict Must choose to let Spirit control, not our flesh Spirit's leading does not put us under law - 18 Not required, but free to choose to obey God Choice is motivated by love, not by fear of law

II. Works of the Flesh - 5:19-21

- Seeks gratification for desires 19
 Adultery, fornication, uncleanness (impurity)
 Lasciviousness (debauchery)
- 2. Seeks alternate spiritual power 20 Idolatry and witchcraft
- 3. Promotes self in relationships 20-21 Hatred, variance (discord), emulations (jealousy) wrath (rage), strife (selfish ambition), seditions (dissensions), heresies (factions), envy & murder
- Flesh promotes self-indulgence 21
 Drunkenness, reveling (orgies), & such like

III. Fruit of the Spirit - 5:22-23

- 1. Spirit produces godly character 22 Love (1Jn.4:7), joy (Jn.15:11), peace (Jn.14:27)
- 2. Spirit produces gracious conduct 23 Longsuffering (patience), gentleness (kindness), goodness, faith (faithfulness), meekness (gentleness)
- 3. Spirit produces governing control 23
 Result is self-control no excessive indulgence
 Law is designed to restrain self-indulgence
 With the Spirit in control law is not needed

IV. The Way to Victory - 5:24-26

- We are crucified with Christ 24
 Those in Christ have been crucified with Him Sinful flesh with loves, desires been crucified Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:11-13
- 2. Challenge is to walk in the Spirit 25
 If our life is now in the Spirit, live it out
 Walk in line with the Spirit
- Live consistently with truth 26
 Self-promotion, provoking others, envy
 Out of harmony with who we are in Christ
 Out of harmony with Spirit who lives in us