

Winsome Words
How Your Words Change

In this message, we will look at three connections between the Holy Spirit and your words.

First connection: **The Holy Spirit resides within every Christian.**

You don't have to become good enough or repent enough or have a specific experience, you just need to be a Christian. If you are a Christian, you have the Holy Spirit.

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13

When you believed – past tense, already happened. At the moment of salvation, you were sealed. This is permanent.

Here's a piece of good news: As a Christian, you also have the Holy Spirit living within you to give you both the desire & ability to obey God. Here's a piece of hard news: you still have a sin nature. Even though you are redeemed, reconciled, eternally secure, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, you still have a sin nature.

Your sin nature and its desires are in conflict with the Holy Spirit and His desires. Therefore, you can expect Christianity to be hard. You can expect feelings of failure and moments of not measuring up. That is normal.

Second Connection: **Your responsibility is to yield to the working of the Holy Spirit.**

One of the things that really stands out here is where the Christian is supposed to put his or her effort in terms of spiritual growth. It's fascinating to me that Paul does not say, put your focus on what you don't do. You can see where Paul puts the emphasis by looking at four brief statements – all connected to the Holy Spirit.

5:16 Walk by the Spirit

5:18 Led by the Holy Spirit

5:25 Live by the Spirit

5:25 Keep in step with the Spirit

Third Connection: **God's responsibility is to produce His fruit in you.**

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23