

Spiritual Conformity

Description

Galatians 5:19-26

Remember those toddler toys with colorful shaped blocks that fit into shaped holes of a plastic ball? The objective is to teach kids their shapes and colors. If they put the round block through the round hole, we clap, smile, and celebrate. If they try to cram the triangle into the square hole, we encourage them to try again.

When the ball is full, we stretch it open, dump the blocks, and repeat the process as long as we can keep their attention. In reality, for the rest of their lives they will be learning and re-learning to either conform or not to different objectives.

God's Word lays out the objectives for Christians. We're called to follow the example of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit and motivated by the promise of citizenship in the kingdom of God.

Scripture explicitly warns those who live in conformity to the ways the world by describing "acts of the flesh" to avoid. Then it explicitly describes the "fruit" produced by the Holy Spirit at work in those who live by the Spirit. It's always best to learn to live in step with the Spirit.

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