

Keep In Step

Description

Galatians 5:13-26.

Ballerinas who know the steps to their dances have spent a lot of time and effort to perfect their art. Each individual must practice, learning each movement for the performance. If one dancer doesn't know his or her steps, then the performance lacks the quality it is meant to have. Yet even if all the dancers know the steps but fail to move as one, the dance becomes a distraction, pulling attention away from the beauty that was intended.

Christians are not unlike ballerinas, dancing in step to the music and in unity with each other. Paul is clear to the church in Galatia: You are free to be free and, in that freedom, you are to love your neighbor as yourself. If we "bite and devour" each other, then we fail to move in step with the Spirit and each other. We become a distraction and fail to be what God intends for us to be.

The indwelling of the Spirit transforms us, perfecting our steps so that we move in sync with God and others. What does that look like? Our transformed lives are formed by love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (vv. 22-23).

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