

LIVE BY THE SPIRIT

THEME VERSE – GAL 5:25 (NIV)

²⁵ *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

PT 2: UNDERSTANDING WORLDLINESS

By Andrew Foo (20/3/16)

Scripture – 1 John 2:15-17 (NLT)

¹⁵ *Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. ¹⁷ And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.*

1. Explaining worldliness

a. 2 key words:

- “World” (Kosmos) – Sinful, corrupted system and way of life
- “Love” (Agape) – Indicates commitment and choice

b. Definitions of worldliness:

- *“Thoughts, values, attitudes and actions that doesn’t glorify God, nor submit to His authority.”*
- *“It involves the pursuit of earthly things, the practice of earthly values and the pre-occupation with earthly cares.”*
- *“Worldliness is anything that cools down our love for Jesus” – John Wesley*

c. How does worldliness creep into a believer's life? (v16)

¹⁶ *For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.*

- Craving (lust) for pleasure – Appetites
 - “Lust” – Strong, intense drive or desire, that’s hard to control
- Craving (lust) for what we see – Affections
- Pride of life – Ambitions

2. Eradicating worldliness

a. Gal 6:14 (NIRV)

¹⁴ *I never want to brag about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through that cross the ways of the world have been crucified as far as I am concerned. And I have been crucified as far as the ways of the world are concerned.*

God's provision and solution – The cross