

## **Living Under the Influence (LUI)**

*Are you living under the influence of the Holy Spirit?*

*July 19, 2015*

**Influence:** The power to change or affect someone or something

Following are signs that you are under the influence by a substance:

- Change in behavior
- Change in speech
- Change in reactions

### **What we allow to influence us direct us!**

#### **Scriptural Text:**

Galatians 5:13-25 New International Version (NIV)

*13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh[a]; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." [b] 15 If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.*

*16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever [c] you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

*19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

#### **Loving on Purpose:**

John 15:9-17 New International Version (NIV)

*9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear*

*fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other.*

- Greek word agape - It is a love more of decision than of the spontaneous heart. Its a purposeful way of living (regardless of circumstance)
- Galatians 5:22 - Paul is referring to a cluster of fruit and that all of the qualities should be manifested in each believer.
- Fruit of the Spirit describes what *love in action* looks like

### **Fruit of the Spirit is the DNA or character of Christ:**

John 13:34-35 New International Version (NIV)

34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

### **Starve your flesh (utterly destroy its power):**

Romans 6:1-6 New International Version (NIV)

*6 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

*5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,[a] that we should no longer be slaves to sin—*

### **Summary:**

- Walking in the Spirit is a choice
- Starving your selfish desires and our response during trial identifies maturity in Christ
- Mature fruit is grown in the middle of trial and turmoil

**Our most impactful testimony is not what comes out of our mouth but how we live!**

**Purpose (to Love) + Process (starve your flesh) = Powerful Living**

