

COMPARISON OF HUMAN EFFORT VS. LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Galatians 3:3

It's easy to try to attain maturity in Christ the wrong way. Much of devoted and dedicated service is in reality human effort. All of our service and good work must flow out of a life of faith and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

	Religion by Human Effort	Life in the Spirit
Goal	Please God by our own good works	Trust in Christ and then live to please God
Means	Practice, diligent service, discipline, and obedience in hope of reward	Confess, submit, and commit yourself to Christ's control
Power	Good, honest effort through self-determination	The Holy Spirit in us helps us do good work for Christ's kingdom
Control	Self-motivation; self-control	Christ in me; I in Christ
Results	Chronic guilt, apathy, depression, failure, constant desire for approval	Joy, thankfulness, love, guidance, service, forgiveness