

## LIVE BY THE SPIRIT

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**Simplicity enables us to live the 'life of the Spirit'**

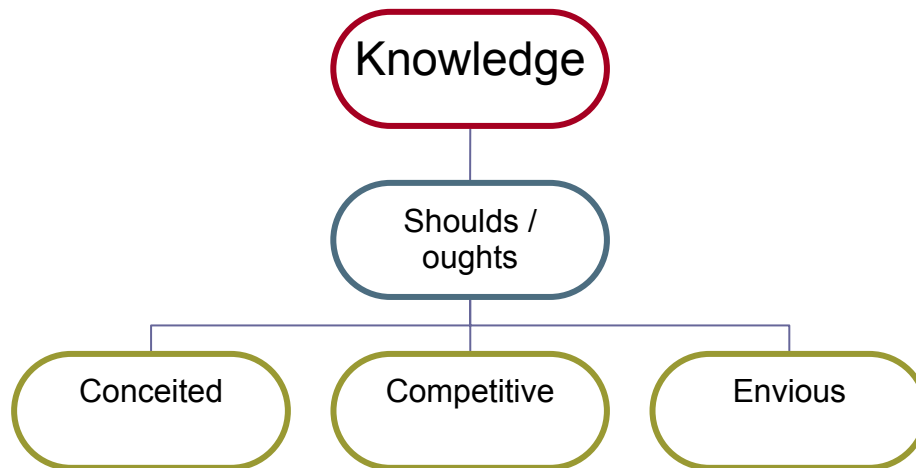
two 'principalities' which try to hinder us living this life.

- **Religion**
  - **Consumerism**
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Law.

v18 – *If you live by the Spirit you are not under **law***

**The religious process.**



'Religion is what happens when God goes out of the room' -Bono

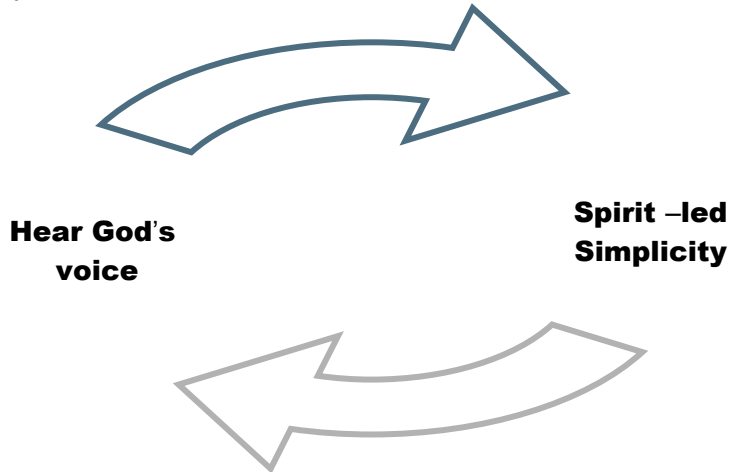
If we live distant from God, our 'spiritual' motives for simplicity will be;

- To appease God (He's angry) – *self protection*
- To persuade God (He withholds) – *self interest.*

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2009

We can only live New Covenant simplicity in relationship with God. This does not come through legalistic adherence to principles, but through walking with the Holy Spirit. Hearing God's voice is essential to simplicity.

The cycle of Spirit life



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V16 – *If you walk by the Spirit you will not fulfil the desires of the flesh.*

The victory is already won, its' not a balanced fight.

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**Consumerism**

Hear God's voice → Simplicity

- a. Listen whilst you shop.
- b. Submit our desires
- c. Live in contentment (1 Tim 6:6-8)
- d. Enjoy gifts from your Father. (gratitude not guilt)

Simplicity → Hear God's voice

- a. Undistracted

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- b. Uncluttered
    - Endless comparison
    - Fear of missing out
    - Added extras
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Both religion and consumerism inhibit the life of the Spirit, because they are **self serving**.

The answer isn't controlling these principalities with changed behaviour. – It's the radical choice to live according to our new nature.

*V24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.*

At salvation – we begin a completely different life. We are born into a life of the spirit.

*V25 Since we live by the Spirit,*

*let us keep in step with the Spirit*

