

The More Excellent Way

[I CORINTHIANS 12:31 \(Greek / Literal Translation\)](#)

The (a) part of [I Corinthians 12:31](#) Introduces [I Corinthians Chapter 14](#).

The (b) part of [I Corinthians 12:31](#) Introduces [I Corinthians Chapter 13](#).

The word “*COVET*” is used by the Apostle Paul, directed by the power of the Holy Spirit, to reveal that the church is being addressed as a group. The members of the local congregation have the responsibility to utilize the *EXCELLENT WAY* – a way that has no comparison. (Illustration: Over the years we have traveled on many different types of roads. Could I mention one? – In a certain state there is a very bad road; we made a bad decision one time – took that country road – rocks flying, rough, bumpy – not the *excellent way*.) God does not desire that we, in life, choose the narrow, winding, rough, rocky, bumpy, way but the excellent, wide highway of God’s Grace. That was presented to the Corinthians then, and for us today. It was a way, a life of completeness, joy, happiness, satisfaction and contentment. Are we missing this? If so, let’s consider God’s wonderful plan!

IT IS THE SPIRIT FILLED LIFE – THE NORMAL, NOT THE ABNORMAL WAY! It is the spiritually perceptive journey. It is the way of vertical viewpoint! It is the way designed for a born again believer. The unsaved have no inkling (slight knowledge, glimmer) of this excellent way – *SAD-SAD, INDEED!* Also very sad is that many believers are negligent, careless and without spiritual direction, hobbling through life, and not choosing the *EXCELLENT WAY*.

The More Excellent Way (Continued)

Let us now consider the true meaning of *SPIRITUALITY*.

1. Spirituality is designed for believers only.
2. Spirituality is not *MORALITY* – it goes far beyond. It, includes it, but is not it.
3. Christianity is a personal relationship with God. Morality is a by-product of Christianity, but is neither spirituality nor Christianity. Some people are of the opinion that if they are moral, they are spiritual. *NOT SO!*
4. The dynamics of Christianity are found in the *filling of the Spirit*.
5. Some could ask: “*Why be moral?*” Morality is absolutely necessary for the proper function of the human race, according to the Divine Institutions (choice, marriage, family, nationalism) both for believer and unbeliever. And the human race will not survive without morality.
6. But the Spirit-filled life produces morality without pride or self-righteousness.
7. Morality cannot provide salvation or spirituality.
8. There are two sources of morality: one kind of morality comes from the human efforts, the human good of mankind. Another comes from the filling of the Holy Spirit in the believer which is an *inner* morality, and is entirely different. We must remember:

SALVATION IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

SPIRITUALITY IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.