

## Defying the downward pull

**“So I say, live by the Holy Spirit’s power. Then you will not do what your desires controlled by sin want you to do.” (Galatians 5:16 New International Reader's Version (NIRV))**

December 17 1903 saw the first powered, controlled, and heavier-than-air manned flight – lasting just 12 seconds - at Kitty Hawk in North Carolina, USA. Of course, the concept of being able to fly through the air has fascinated man since early times. And many attempts at various forms of ‘flight’ have been tried throughout the years.

Today, we take it for granted that an aeroplane can transport us through the air because that structure is designed to have a greater power than the law of gravity. Man can ‘fly’ – but not without some kind of device outside of himself.

The same principle can apply to our believing lives. Human history has shown – more than that, proved beyond doubt – that we cannot meet the standards set by our Creator without power from a source outside of ourselves. We may try our best, but that ‘best’ is never good enough. In short, we cannot ‘fly’ on our own.

Thankfully, there is an answer – and one that allows us to defy, not gravity, but the pulls of the flesh and society.

“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”  
(Galatians 5:16 ESV).

Just as the aeroplane overcomes gravity, so by the power of the Holy Spirit a believer can overcome the temptations and desires that pull us down and away from the life that God wants us to experience.

When we place our complete trust in Jesus, He – through the power of the Holy Spirit - plants the desires in our heart to obey Him. By allowing the Holy Spirit to direct our every move, our lives move to a higher level and we obey from the heart, not out of obligation.