

The Fruit of the Spirit

Gal. 5:22-25 / John 15:8

- In John 15:8 the Greek word for fruit is the same word used in Gal. 5:22.
- In talking about “FRUIT” we are talking about a by-product of the Holy Spirit.
- The “Fruit of the Spirit” is the very character nature of God, His Word and His Spirit.
- The “Fruit of the Spirit” is inclusive to the nature of God.
- The “Fruit of the Spirit may be demonstrated in a person’s life. However they are Spiritual not natural and most be reproduced by the Word of God and Spirit of God.

The Apostle Paul was a Jewish missionary church planter. He planted churches all over. The Galatians received Paul’s message in which announced that God would grant salvation by grace alone through faith alone in His Son Jesus Christ alone. That plus nothing! The Galatians saw salvation, miracles and healings; there was a great spirit of revival there in Galatia. Then Paul left to plant churches elsewhere and some other Jewish missionaries came and preached law over grace as if Paul had only give half a message .In which Paul writes Galatians the letter to those in Galatia regarding this issue of law verses grace. In Galatians5 Paul makes it very clear that living a life of freedom doesn’t mean you fall back into your old lewd pagan ways. Paul is making a case for living a good life that is led by the Spirit instead of a rules-centered life. He is saying if you live a Holy-Spirit centered life and learn how to live under the control of the Spirit, the law will have know condemnation for you because you will become the kind of people the Jewish law was designed to produce, but could not produce. Only the Holy Spirit can.

7 Observations about the “Fruit of the Spirit”:

1. **The “Fruit of the Spirit” and the “Gifts of the Spirit” are equally important.**
 - a. The airplane wing which would you choose?
 - b. Without both wings you or the church isn’t getting off the ground.
2. **The “Fruit of the Spirit” can be categorized but is inclusive. (fruit-singular)**
 - a. God Word / Man Word / Self Word
 - b. **Dispositions of the Mind:** *love, joy and peace.* **Qualities affecting Human Relationships:** *patience, kindness and goodness.* **Principles the guide our Conduct:** *faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*
 - c. **There are inclusive:** *You can’t be **faithful** if you don’t have **self-control**. You can’t be **kind** if you can’t be **gentle** or **patient** without being **humble**.*

3. **The “Fruit of the Spirit” glorifies God, blesses others and benefits you.** (John 15:8)

4. **The “Fruit of the Spirit” like natural fruit has to have seed for there to be fruit.**
 - a. Seed produces fruit
 - b. The Word of God is the seed and the Holy Spirit is the water (activator)
 - c. The seed is usually at the core. We disregard the seed and the core but without it there would be no fruit.

5. **The “Fruit of the Spirit” like natural fruit is a by-product of being planted, growing roots, being water and fed and living in the light.**

6. **The “Fruit of the Spirit” growing in your life is God’s Plan.**

7. **The Fruit of the Spirit is proof of God’s Spirit alive and at work in you and you keeping step with the Spirit.**
 - a. Walk in the Spirit
 - b. Live in the Spirit

If you and I live Spirit-led lives we will become the kind of people God has always wanted us to be. If we truly live Spirit-led, Spirit-controlled lives then we will change. If you let the Holy Spirit take control you will become loving, kind, patient and gentle. The Holy Spirit can change you into the kind of person you have always wanted to be. You can become the kind of person you admire as you see these qualities exhibited in someone else. If you let the Holy Spirit take charge of your life you can become that loving, joyful, kind, good person that God has always desired you to be. It’s His desire that we bear much fruit. It is His desire that we become like Him. He loves you and I the way we are but He loves us too much to leave us that way.