

**What does
Spiritual fruit
look like?**

- Keep the commandments**
- Multiply your talents**
- Labor in the harvest**
- Run the race to win**
- An abundant life**
- Redeem the time**
- Make disciples**

John 15:5

“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.”

Galatians 5

“²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

The fruit of the Spirit is contrasted with the works of the flesh

- 1. The works of the flesh are a worldly attempt to find life while the fruit of the Spirit is a sign that we have life in Christ.**
- 2. It is not governed by the law (duty) but comes from the heart.**

John 15

“¹ I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. . . . ⁴ **Abide in Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing . . . ⁹ Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments, and abide in His love.”

We don’t bear fruit by focusing on the fruit but by abiding in the vine - embracing Christ’s love.

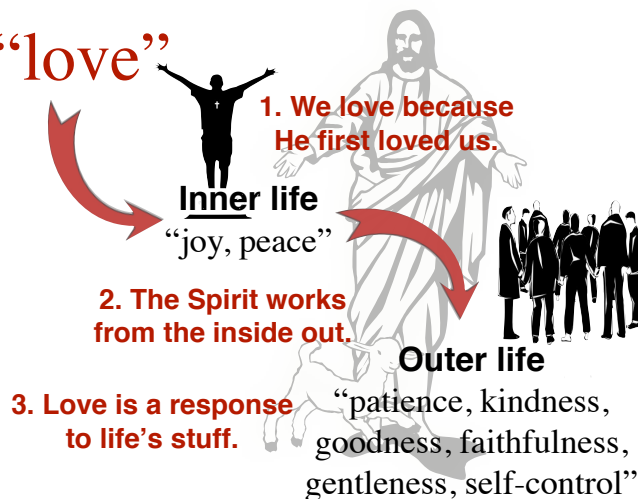


- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| love | vs. uncaring |
| joy | vs. depressed disappointment |
| peace | vs. discontent |
| patience | vs. impatient |
| kindness | vs. hard hearted |
| goodness | vs. worthless |
| faithfulness | vs. disloyal |
| gentleness | vs. insensitive |
| self-control | vs. undisciplined |



Sweet fruit vs. spoiled fruit

“love”



- 1. Nothing is said about being productive in the work of ministry.**
- 2. Nothing is said about being segregated from a world of sinners and pain.**
- 3. Nothing is said about being particularly religious.**
- 4. Nothing is said about the world bowing at my doorstep or turning up roses.**
- 5. Nothing is said about boldness, miracles, signs and wonders, etc.**

1 Corinthians 13

“⁴ Love is patient,
love is kind,
is not jealous;
love does not brag
is not arrogant,
⁵ does not act unbecomingly;
it does not seek its own,
is not provoked,
does not take into account a wrong suffered,
⁶ does not rejoice in unrighteousness,
rejoices with the truth;
⁷ bears all things,
believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things.
⁸ Love never fails;”

**Love is
more about
responding
than achieving.**

**Love is
more about
being
than doing.**

**Love is
more about
grace
than justice.**

Galatians 5

“²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

3 facts

1. Crucifixion is an willful act of judgment at the point of our union with Christ.
2. The passions and desires of the flesh do not feel or act dead.
3. I must be a living sacrifice, which means I have responsibility to act.

Romans 6

“³ Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? . . . ⁶ **knowing** this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin; ⁷ for he who has died is freed from sin. . . . ¹¹ Even so **consider** yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore **do not let** sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts, ¹³ and **do not go on presenting** the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but **present** yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.”

know - consider - do not let - present

Galatians 5

“²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.”

**Two dimensions of the spiritual life -
living by and walking by.**

Unique challenges with spirituality

1. spiritual **pride**
2. spiritual **disrespect**
3. spiritual **envy**

“A spiritual person
knows himself,
accepts himself,
forgets about himself,
and gives himself.”

Lessons

- ✓ If we are justified before God by the Spirit we should **take full advantage of the power** He gives us to radiate the life of Christ through us.
- ✓ The fruit of the Spirit has more to do with **who we are** than what we accomplish.
- ✓ The fruit of the Spirit starts with God's love, which **changes us from the inside out**, and makes us a blessing to others.
- ✓ Walking in the Spirit involves resisting the flesh and **presenting ourselves to God based on faith** in what He says is true.