

“The Fruit Of The Spirit”
Galatians 5:22-23
8/27/23
Message 9

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “The Fruit Of The Spirit”

• **Review**

- **1st The Letter was sent to**
 - The area known as Galatia
- **2nd Purpose for The letter**
 - **1st To Confront the Evil LIES of the Judaizers (Legalist)**
 - Their LIE - Salvation PLUS the Law (Circumcision)
 - **2nd To Stand UP for the TRUTH**
 - The Truth Salvation By Faith & Grace Alone
 - **3rd Paul’s Defense**
 - Judaizers - UNDERMINED Paul’s Authority
 - Judaizers - UNDERMINED Paul’s Teaching
 - **4th Paul has been talking about 2 PATHS**
 - The LAW
 - Self-Righteousness
 - Makes the Cross of NO Effect!
 - Tramples on GRACE

- Leads to death
- The GRACE of God received by FAITH
 - Leads to LIFE in Christ
 - Brings VICTORY

• **Last Week – Galatians 5 – “Walk In The Spirit”**

- **Paul Hammers Home the KEY to the VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIFE**
 - **The Secret To...**
 - Living a godly life!
 - Having victory over my flesh nature!
 - How do I stay close to the Lord!
 - How do I stay usable for Him!
 - **The Answer is FOUND in our text this morning**
 - The Answer is **NOT IN...**
 - Man made Attempts to clean ourselves up
 - Human Philosophies that may look like we are getting better on the outside BUT the core (inside) is still a mess
 - The answer is NEVER FOUND in US
 - The Answer is **IN CHRIST**
 - 1st Salvation

- You don't need to clean yourself up –
 - COME AS YOU ARE
- 2nd Lordship
 - Is He Lord of your LIFE –
 - I have been crucified with Christ
- 3rd Walk IN THE SPIRIT –
 - Led by the Spirit
 - LIVE The Spirit-Filled Life
 - You See
 - When you WALK in the Spirit you won't fulfill the lust of the flesh
 - Walking in the Spirit is done by SUBMITTING to God
 - Die to self
 - Illustration
 - As a young Christian
 - I tried to clean my self up
 - It only lead to frustration
 - When I simply by God's GRACE through Faith in Him and His finished work on the cross
 - Just surrendered daily – He cleaned this life up – He

made things happen I never
thought possible

- **Now This Morning we will look the FRUIT Of The Spirit**

- The Fruit Of The Spirit v. 22a
- The Fruit Of Love v. 22b
- The Fruit Of Joy v. 22c
- The Fruit Of Peace v. 22d
- The Fruit Of Long-Suffering v. 22e
- The Fruit Of Kindness v. 22f
- The Fruit Of Goodness v. 22g
- The Fruit Of Faithfulness v. 22h
- The Fruit Of Gentleness / Meekness v. 23a
- The Fruit Of Self-Control v. 23b

The Fruit Of The Spirit v. 22a

- **Frist: The fruit of the Spirit is v. 22a**

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

- **1st Works VS Fruit**
 - The Contrast between WORKS and FRUIT
 - It says FRUIT not WOKS
 - **WORKS**
 - Greek: Ergon
 - Means: Business, employment, that which any one is occupied; any product whatever, anything accomplished by hand, art, industry, or mind
 - Works are produced by Effort and Toil.
 - If you "try" to produce anything in your life...

- It's going to be a "work" of the flesh.
- Illustration
- If you look at this list of "fruit", and say to yourself,
 - I think I need to work on my patience
 - What's more likely to happen is
 - The works of the flesh, like enmities, strife, or outbursts of anger.
- The whole book of Galatians is aimed at combatting "legalism".
 - One of the main characteristics of legalism is coming up with lists of "things you have to do".
 - Trying to accomplish a list of things to please God, instead of producing "fruit"
 - It just wont work
 - Fruit doesn't make a list!

▪ **FRUIT**

- Greek: Karpos
- Means: Fruit; that which originates or comes from something, an effect, result
 - Fruit is produced naturally, slowly, through growth
- Illustration
 - My ORANGE TREE in the backyard does not maintain a list of "things to do to produce fruit".

- All it does is just grow and fruit naturally comes
- It does not go to workshops
 - To learn the five easy steps to producing fruit.
 - It just grows.
- SO The FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
 - Is simply the product of the Spirit working in your life
 - As you SUBMIT to the LORD
 - As you die to self and live for God
- **2nd How to Produce Fruit – Abide**
 - Turn to John 15

John 15:1–8 (NKJV)

- 1** *"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.*
- 2** *Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away (Ario, Lift Up); and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.*
- 3** *You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.*
- 4** *Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, 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, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*
- 6** *If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.*
- 7** *If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.*
- 8** *By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*

- **Brief Explanation of the Passage**

- I believe this passage is all about bearing fruit not salvation
- It all about God's Faithfulness

▪ **Keys to bearing FRUIT**

- 1st Abide

- "Abiding" is nothing more than remaining where you are.
 - Stay "connected" to Jesus.
 - As long as you stay connected to Jesus
 - You WILL bear fruit.
 - YOU DON'T MANUFACTURE anything
 - God Does the work
- What Does Abiding Look like
 - Submission
 - In The Word
 - The Word and Prayer
 - Fellowship
 - Serving

- 2nd Pruning

- Part of the process of bearing fruit is "pruning" (Make Clean)
- Illustration

- Trees at CCA
- Branches that are bearing fruit are pruned back.
 - This isn't a pleasant process.
 - Pruning is when God cuts away from you the unnecessary things in your life.
- We are pruned by God's Word.
 - Jesus "cleanses" (prunes) us with His Word.
- **3rd Fruit Inspection**
 - The TEST to whether or not a person is bearing GOOD fruit
 - It's not whether they speak in tongues, or deliver those "thus sayeth the Lord" speeches during prayer time.
 - It's SEEN in love, joy, peace, patience...

The Fruit Of Love v. 22b

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

• Frist: The Definition Of Love

- **1st As you know, there are different Greek words for LOVE**
 - English ONE WORD
 - I love my CAT I Love My Wife – I would hope not at the same level...
 - GREEK many different Words –
 - There are 8 total words for LOVE in the Greek

- Deal with just 4 today
 - Storge = Family Love
 - Phileo = Brotherly Love
 - Eros = Sensual Love
 - Agape = God's Love - Sacrificial Love
- Agape is the word used here
 - It is a love that looks like God's LOVE
 - It's a word that is almost exclusively used in the Bible and is used of God
 - It's often be called divine love
 - A Sacrificial love
 - It is not dependent upon it's object
 - Love based not in the **Emotions**, but in the **WILL**
 - A love that chooses to place value on another person, regardless of the other person's deserving it.
 - It is unconditional.
 - It's not "I love you if ...", but "I love you in spite..."

• Second: The Demonstration Of Love In Our Lord Jesus Christ

- Jesus Demonstrated this TYPE OF LOVE

John 3:16 (NKJV)

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 5:8 (NKJV)

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 John 3:16 (NKJV)

16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1 John 4:10–11 (NKJV)

10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

- We ought to understand that when Jesus died
 - God Almighty was demonstrating His love for us
 - We should never get used to that!!!

• **Third: The Display Of Love In Our Own Lives**

○ **1st This is where the rubber meets the road**

- Turn to 1 Corinthians 13

1 Corinthians 13:1–8 (NKJV)

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;

6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

*7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.*

- Put Your Name in there – How does it look
- Put Jesus' name in there how does it look
- We need to be like Jesus

The Fruit Of Joy v. 22c

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*

• First: The Definition Of What Joy Is

○ **JOY**

- Greek: Chara
- Means: Joy, gladness
 - The word “joy” is used some 70 times in the New Testament

○ **Joy is NOT the same as HAPPINESS**

- Happiness is based on circumstances and emotions.
- Joy = TRUSTING in the LORD
 - Joy is the deep-down sense of well-being that abides in the heart of the person who knows all is well between himself and the Lord.
 - It is not an experience that comes from good circumstances or human emotions.

- **Second: Our Dependence Upon The Lord For Joy**

- **1st Joy comes from Faithful Obedience to the Lord.**

Matthew 25:21 (NKJV)

21 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

- This is the parable of the talents, and the reward that the Master gives for faithful obedience is joy.

John 15:9–11 (NKJV)

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have 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.

11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

- Joy comes from obeying what Jesus speaks to you

- **2nd Joy comes from the confidence that flows from the Lord.**

- Our security comes from God

Psalm 28:7 (NKJV)

7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.

- It's "in the Lord" that we can always find the ability to rejoice.

Philippians 4:4 (NKJV)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

- He cares about me. He loves me. He'll help me.

- **3rd Joy comes from the Holy Spirit.**

Romans 14:17 (NKJV)

17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

- Joy that comes from the Holy Spirit is one of the things that the kingdom of God is all about.

- **Third: The Display Of Joy In Our Lives**

- **1st In Our Response To God In Worship**

Psalm 27:6 (NKJV)

6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

- (Psalm 27:6; Psalm 32:8-11; Psalm 33:1-3)

- **2nd In Our Reaction To Difficult Circumstances**

James 1:2–4 (NKJV)

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

- (James 1:2-4; Romans 5:1-5)

- **Fourth: The Description Of What Is To Come**

Psalm 16:11 (NKJV)

11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

The Fruit Of Peace v. 22d

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*

- **First: It Starts Through Peace With God**

○ **1st The World is LOOKING Everywhere But to God to Find Peace**

▪ The search for peace is so strong

• People try to find it in

- Pleasure
- In entertainment
- In substances
- In financial security

○ **2nd But TRUE peace is only found with God**

▪ Peace **WITH** God

• The Bible is very clear that the unbeliever is not at peace with God

Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

1 *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

Ephesians 2:14–19 (NKJV)

14 *For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,*

15 *having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,*

16 *and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.*

17 *And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.*

18 *For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.*

19 *Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,*

• **Second: It's Seen In The Peace Of God**

- **1st The peace of God is seen in our thoughts and attitudes**

Philippians 4:6–7 (NKJV)

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)

3 You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

- **Third: It Seeks Peace With Others**

- **1st Remember Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers...”**

Ephesians 4:1–3 (NKJV)

1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The Fruit Of Long-Suffering v. 22e

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **longsuffering**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

- **First: Longsuffering Defined**

- **Longsuffering / Patience**

- Greek: Makrothumia

- Means: Patience, endurance, constancy, steadfastness, perseverance; patience, forbearance, longsuffering, slowness in avenging wrongs

- There are 2 words that are often translated "patience":

- Mak-ro-thum-ia
 - Is being patient with people.
 - Is the self-restraint which does not hastily retaliate a wrong.
 - To be patient in bearing the offenses and injuries of others
 - To be mild and slow to punish
 - The opposite of makrothumia is wrath and revenge.
- Hupomone
 - Is being patient and enduring through hard circumstances.

• **Second: Longsuffering Displayed**

- **In dealing with others**
 - It is a non-avenging spirit
 - I have the power to avenge myself, but I don't do it
 - It's the difference of being driven by love or by pride
 - If driven by love...
 - I Don't need to prove anything

• **Third: Longsuffering Developed**

- **How can I develop longsuffering in my life?**
 - Let's look at 4 practical tips:

○ **1st Remain Content In The Enjoyment Of God**

1 Timothy 6:6 (NKJV)

6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

○ **2nd Recognize The Sovereignty Of God**

Romans 8:28 (NKJV)

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

○ **3rd Rely On The Fairness Of God**

Romans 12:17–19 (NKJV)

17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

○ **4th Remember God’s Example & Purpose For Long-Suffering**

2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV)

9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

- God’s longsuffering keeps the world from being destroyed
 - His patience & longsuffering allows time for people to be saved
- Your Longsuffering
 - Will allow God to work because you didn’t blow your witness
 - Will allow room for people to be touched by God

The Fruit Of Kindness v. 22f

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness,

• **First: It Reflects Compassion To Those In Need**

○ **Kindness**

- Greek: Chrestotes –
- Means: Moral goodness, integrity; benignity, kindness
 - Comes from the adjective chrestos - fit, fit for use, useful; virtuous, good; manageable, mild, pleasant (as opp. to harsh, hard sharp, bitter), of things: more pleasant, of people, kind, benevolent
 - In the King James, this word (translated here as gentleness) is translated "goodness" (4x), "kindness" (4x), "good" (1x), and "kindness" (1x).
 - NIV & NAS both translate it "kindness" in Gal.5:22
 - Forms of the Greek word appear 19 times in the NT

○ **To be kind means**

- To be useful, serving, and gracious.
- How we respond to people in need around us
- It is active goodwill. It not only feels generous, it is generous.
- It not only desires others' welfare, but works for it.

• **Second: It Responds With Forgiveness**

Ephesians 4:32 (NKJV)

32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

- **Third: It Reacts With Good To The Unthankful & Evil Person**

Luke 6:35 (NKJV)

35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

- **Fourth: It Relieves The Burdens Of Others**

- Matt. 11:28-30 - “My yoke is easy”
- Kindness is the attitude of “How can I help?”

- **Fifth: It's Reflected In Our Speech (James 3:2-12; Ephesians 4:29-32)**

- This is a very important place for kindness
 - Speech is a test of genuine Christianity
 - Harshness of speech can be so harmful to the cause of Christ

The Fruit Of Goodness v. 22g

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, **goodness**, faithfulness,*

- **First: In Our Disposition**

- **Goodness**
 - Greek: Agathosune –
 - Means: Uprightness of heart and life, goodness, kindness
 - From agathos - of good constitution or nature
 - It is found in Rom.15:14; Gal.5:22; Eph.5:9; 2Th.1:11
- **Goodness is something that is desirable; it's a virtue**

- Now this is different than a 'good mood'
 - Moods come and go and change like the weather
- But a good disposition is
 - A part of a godly personality
 - Makes us easy to live with
 - Makes us approachable...every day
 - Is the key to having a good attitude
- **A Spirit-filled Christian is friendly and pleasant**
 - Jesus was quick to befriend the needy
 - He was called a friend of sinners
 - What's our attitude like?
 - At home, at church, at work?

• **Second: Seen In Our Desire**

- **To do GOOD WORKS!**
 - Now remember, no one earns salvation from "good works"
 - But good works are evidence of someone who has been born again
 - James tells us that "faith without works is dead"
 - (Ephesians 2:10)

The Fruit Of Faithfulness v. 22h

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, **faithfulness**,*

- **First: The Description Of What Faithfulness Is**

- **Faithfulness pertains to loyalty and trustworthiness.**
 - It's an issue of character.
 - It's being consistently trustworthy and loyal, especially to a person, a promise, or duty
 - It's being able to trust someone or depend on them

- **Second: The Display Of Faithfulness**

- **1st In Our Relationship With The Lord**
 - Stay Faithful to HIM
 - Example: First Church
 - Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- **2nd In Our Commitment To Others**
 - **1st In Friendships**

Proverbs 11:13 (NKJV)

13 *A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.*

Proverbs 27:6 (NKJV)

6 *Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.*

- Proverbs 11:13 A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.

- Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

- **2nd In Marriage**

- To Death due you part

The Fruit Of Gentleness / Meekness v. 23a

Galatians 5:23 (NKJV)

23 **gentleness**, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- **First: Gentleness**

- **1st Gentleness can also be translated Meekness.**

- Strength under control
- It is that humble and gentle attitude
 - It is patiently submissive in every offense
 - While being free of any desire for revenge or retribution.
- A mildness or quietness of nature

- **2nd In the New Testament this Greek word is used to describe three attitudes:**

- **1st Submissiveness to the WILL of God (Col. 3:12)**

Colossians 3:12 (NKJV)

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

- **2nd Teachableness (James 1:21)**

James 1:21 (NKJV)

21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

- 3rd Consideration of others (Eph. 4:2).

Ephesians 4:2 (NKJV)

2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

The Fruit Of Self-Control v. 23b

Galatians 5:23 (NKJV)

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

• **First: Self-Control**

- Self-control has reference to restraining passions and appetites.
 - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 - 2 Peter 1:2-11

• **Second: Against such things there is no law"**

- If you are Operating Under the Control of the Holy Spirit
- You DON'T NEED a LAW

Closing

- Lets US grow in Holy Spirit so His Fruit will shine