

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

1. Text: Galatians 5:22-25
2. Here's the famous passage concerning the fruit of the Spirit.
3. Let's deal with them as we look at four questions.

I. **How Do They Develop?**

1. One writer claims They are the "spontaneous product of the presence of the Spirit of Christ within the heart of the Christian." Is that true?
2. Do these fruit suddenly appear by some mysterious, magical working of the Holy Spirit on our hearts?
3. Is it some direct supernatural activity? This is a common belief. Let's answer this later.

II. **What Are The Fruit Of The Spirit?**

1. Love. Agape is the deliberate effort of the heart and will for another's benefit.
2. Joy. Happiness centered in God's will.
3. Peace. The tranquil serenity from knowing we are in the hands of God.
4. Longsuffering. The conquering tolerant patience with people.
5. Kindness. A mellow, generous, "sweet" disposition.
6. Goodness. Basic, broad virtue in practical living.
7. Faithfulness. This person is always trustworthy and reliable.
8. Gentleness. A considerate, teachable, forbearing spirit.
9. Self-control. This is self-mastery and a disciplined life.

III. **Do We Have A Part In Growing This Fruit?**

1. Notice each of the nine above are commanded of us to do!
2. I John 4:7 Let us love one another.
3. Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always.
4. Hebrews 12:14 Pursue peace with all people.
5. I Thessalonians 5:14 Be patient (longsuffering) with all.
6. Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another.
7. Galatians 6:11 Do good unto all men.
8. Revelation 2:10 Be faithful unto death.
9. Titus 3:2 Be gentle to all men.
10. II Peter 1:6 Add to knowledge self-control.

IV. **Again How Does The Fruit Develop?**

1. Fruit used usually of a tree or vine. The Lord used in John 15 eight times.
2. The idea is spiritual growth produces a harvest, crop, ripe fruit or produce.
3. The context (verses 16-25) makes the contrast and conflict between walking (living) in the Spirit and the flesh. Verse 25 If we live in the Spirit, we will walk in Spirit.
4. Paul in I Corinthians 2:10-13 tells us God revealed through the Spirit what he taught his readers. He says, "Things we speak The Holy Spirit teaches."
5. Therefore, as we learn the teachings revealed by the Spirit and follow His directives we can develop the "Fruit of the Spirit" and whatever else we need to obey.

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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