


THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Lesson 7





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

(Galatians 5:22-23 NASB)

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit." (John 15:1-2)

In that parable, the Father is the vinedresser, Jesus is the vine and we are the branches that are connected to the vine.

The fruit is the result of the Holy Spirit's work in everyone that remains connected to Jesus.

The kind of fruit the branches bear depend on the kind of tree. Therefore, the fruit of the Spirit is the character of Jesus that the Holy Spirit reproduces in us.

If we let the Holy Spirit lead us, our character, words and acts will be transformed to Jesus'.



"But the fruit of the Spirit is love" (Galatians 5:22)



**"And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."
(1 Corinthians 13:13)**

LOVE

Why is love the first and most important part of the fruit of the Spirit?

God's love changes our lives. We are transformed when we understand His love. We are able to love when we receive His love. Loving God prepares us to love others, even our enemies.

The other virtues of the fruit of the Spirit must be coated with divine love to be authentic.

Every act in our lives should show love.



“But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] joy” (Galatians 5:22)

“for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 14:17)

JOY



What’s the cause of the joy the Holy Spirit brings?

Understanding and accepting God’s love for us, His sacrifice, His mercy, His forgiveness, His promises and His blessings. That brings long-lasting joy, no matter the circumstances.

How does the peace the Holy Spirit brings work?

That peace is the result of being freed from our sins by faith in Jesus Christ.

That peace makes us peaceful and moves us to do our most to be in peace with everyone (Romans 12:18).



PEACE

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God.”
(Romans 5:1)

“But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] peace” (Galatians 5:22)

How does patience with the fruit of the Holy Spirit differs from patience without it?

Only a few people are patient by nature. Some people make an effort to be patient. However, that patience has a limit without the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The patience the Spirit brings is based on love, joy and peace. Only those who trust the divine promises can be patient to the end.

PATIENCE

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." (Revelation 14:12)



"But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] patience" (Galatians 5:22)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] kindness" (Galatians 5:22)



**"now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness."
(1 Peter 2:3 NLT)**

KINDNESS

How can we have a taste of the Lord's kindness?

The word kindness is used 10 times in the Bible. 8 of them talk about how God treats us (2S. 22:36; Psalm 18:35; Ro. 2:4; Ro. 11:22; Eph. 2:7; Col. 3:12; Tit. 3:4; 1P. 2:3) and the other 2 times talk about the fruit of the Spirit in us (2Co. 6:6; Ga. 5:22).

The kind way the Spirit leads us to treat others reflects how God has treated us by showing His kindness.



"But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] goodness" (Galatians 5:22)

"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." (Luke 6:35)



GOODNESS



How would you define goodness?

Goodness is love in action.

We show goodness when we do love works in favor of others. Goodness is "do what's right, come what may."

That's a practical part of the fruit of the Spirit.

Why is faithfulness important in Christian life?

God is faithful by nature. He cannot break His promises (2 Timothy 2:13).

Jesus is “the faithful witness” (Revelation 1:5). We reflect Jesus’ character as we are faithful to our covenant with God and faithful in our relationships with others by the work of the Spirit in us.

A true Christian is always trustworthy.



FAITHFULNESS

“Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.” (Psalm 37:3)

“But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] faithfulness” (Galatians 5:22)

What's the difference between gentleness or meekness and cowardice or shyness?

A coward or a shy person may look like he is meek, but he may also be proud or arrogant.

Pride is incompatible with gentleness. Jesus told us: "learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart" (Matthew 11:29).

Trusting the power of God's Spirit that works in us makes us meek, humble and patient.

GENTLENESS

"But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace." (Psalm 37:11)



"But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] gentleness" (Galatians 5:22-23)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is [...] self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23)



**"He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."
(Proverbs 16:32)**

SELF-CONTROL

In which areas in life should I improve my self-control?

Self-control or temperance is to be able to completely abstain from bad things and use good things in a balanced way.

Self-control involves not only food or drinks. It must pervade every aspect of our lives.

That's the fruit of the Spirit. By His power, we are able to show His fruit in every aspect of our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.



“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new’ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Nothing but divine power can regenerate the human heart and imbue souls with the love of Christ, which will ever manifest itself with love for those for whom He died. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. When a man is converted to God, a new moral taste is supplied, a new motive power is given, and he loves the things that God loves; for his life is bound up by the golden chain of the immutable promises to the life of Jesus. Love, joy, peace, and inexpressible gratitude will pervade the soul, and the language of him who is blessed will be, ‘Thy gentleness hath made me great’ (Psalm 18:35).”

E.G.W. (Selected Messages, book 1, cp. 51, p. 336)

All the above-mentioned aspects are parts of the one **fruit** of the **Spirit**. When the **Bible** describes **God's** work in our lives, the ethical aspects of holiness have priority over the charismatic gifts.

Christlikeness in all its facets is what really matters in the life of the believer. Because the **fruit** of the **Spirit** is the common distinguishing mark of all believers everywhere, it produces a visible unity in His church.

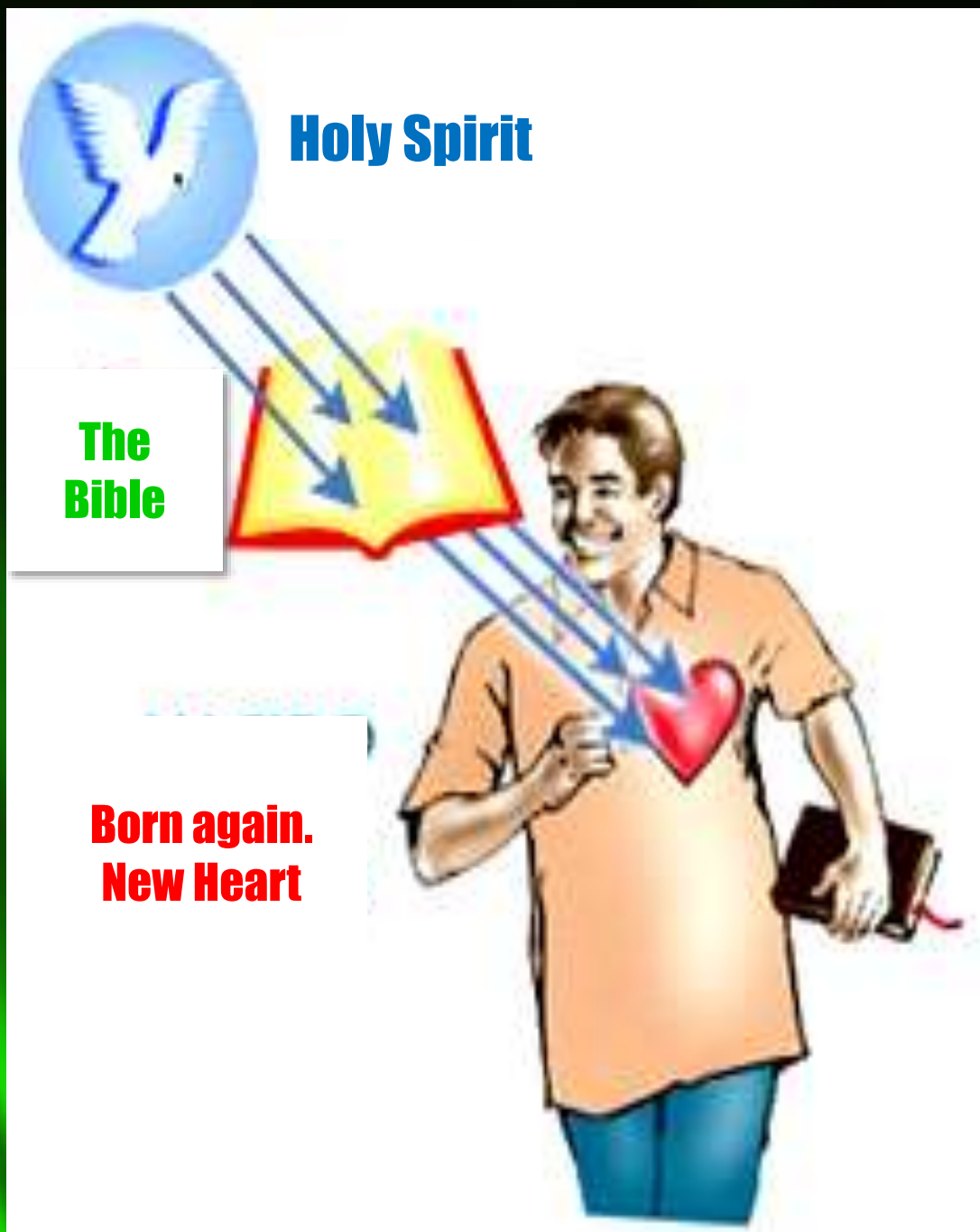



Further Thought:

“In modern language the passage in *Galatians 5:22, 23* could read something like this: ‘The **Fruit** of the Spirit is an affectionate, lovable disposition, a radiant spirit and a cheerful temper, a tranquil mind and a quiet manner, a forbearing patience in provoking circumstances and with trying people, a sympathetic insight and tactful helpfulness, generous judgment and a big-souled charity, loyalty and reliability under all circumstances, humility that forgets self in the joy of others, in all things self-mastered and self-controlled, which is the final mark of perfecting. **This is the kind of character that is the Fruit of the Spirit.** Everything is in the word **fruit**. It is not by striving, but by abiding; not by worrying, but by trusting; not of works, but of faith.’ ”—S. Chadwick, in Arthur Walkington Pink, *The Holy Spirit* (Bellingham, Wash.: Logos Bible Software, n.d.), chapter 30.



“If the love of the truth is in your heart, you will talk of the truth. You will talk of the blessed hope that you have in Jesus. If you have love in your heart, you will seek to establish and build up your brother in the most holy faith. If a word is dropped that is detrimental to the character of your friend or brother, do not encourage this evil-speaking. It is the work of the enemy. Kindly remind the speaker that the Word of God forbids that kind of conversation.”—





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.

John 15:5 NASB

Love

Joy

Peace

Longsuffering

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-Control

9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit

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