

Galatians 5:22-23
Fruit of the Spirit

Believers are responsible to walk bearing God's nature – Vs. 22

- 1. The Holy Spirit has 1 fruit with nine traits.*
 - A. These traits become evident within us, enabling God's nature to be expressed through our lives.*
- 2. Genuine believers do not experience and bear some of them.*
 - A. The Spirit of God produces all of them in the life of a believer.*
 - B. These are NOT the results of human effort!*

Caution – Do not confuse the fruit of the Spirit with Gifts of the Spirit.

- 1. Gifts of the Spirit – are given to believers by God for spiritual service. (1 Cor. 12:28-31, Rom. 12:4-8)*
- 2. Fruit of the Spirit is the natural results of a life empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

Three Categories of Spiritual Fruit

First Category – Fruit Within – Love, Joy, Peace

- *Love – Agape*

Romans 5 give us 3 clear pictures of this love

- *Romans 5:6 – love for the ungodly.*
- *Romans 5:8 - love for unworthy sinners.*
- *Romans 5:10 – love for underserving enemies.*

- *Joy – Inner gladness; a deep-seated pleasure.*
- *Peace – It is to be joined and woven together.*

Second Category – Fruit Toward Others – Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness.

- *Longsuffering – Patience.*

Romans 8:18

18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Two significant points about longsuffering.

- 1. Longsuffering never strikes back.*
- 2. Longsuffering is one of God's greatest traits.*

- *Gentleness – The act of being kind and good.*
- *Goodness – We treat others with excellence.*

Third Category – Fruit That Grounds Us In God's Character - Faith, Meekness, Temperance.

- *Faith – Faithfulness*
- *Meekness – It is gentle, tender, mild, and humble.*
- *Temperance – Mastering self-control to the lust of the flesh.*

Steps to Developing Spiritual Fruit in Our Life.

Step 1 – Stay in contact with the Living Water.

Psalm 1:3

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Step 2 – Take up your cross daily and follow Him.

John 12:24

24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Step 3 – In order to produce fruit of the Spirit we will need to be pruned.

John 15:2

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Step 4 – Allow God to straighten out those defected sinful areas.