The Holy Spirit & Me Series (4)

**“The Fruit Of The Holy Spirit In My Life” – Galatians 5:22-25**

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**Introduction**

1. What is the fruit of the Spirit? If a person is being led by the Spirit, one of the proofs is seeing the character graces from the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5. If these graces are evident they will show we are truly the “sons of God”…
2. **Defining The Fruit of The Spirit**
   1. A Contrast Of Flesh & Fruit
      1. The life of the flesh is a catalog of evil sin.
      2. The fruit is a catalog of grace, beauty and harmony.
   2. A Catalog Of Fruit
      1. Love, Joy & Peace
         1. Love (agape) – meaning unconquerable active good will. It seeks only the highest good even for those who may hurt or damage us. It comes from God’s love (Gal 2:20; Rom 5:5)
         2. Joy (chara) – is from heavenly not the earthly. It originates from experiencing God’s mercy (Rom 15:9-11; 14:17) It comes from the same root word of “grace” (Heb 12:2). It is delight and gladness!
         3. Peace (eirene) – Has two meanings it means tranquility and serenity knowing that our lives are in God’s hands. But also means having serenity with men and women.
      2. Patience, Kindness & Gooness
         1. Patience (makrothumia) – is a word that speaks of relationship with people not things and events. John Chrysostom said: “it is the grace of those who could avenge themselves and do not, people who are slow to anger.” (Rom 2:4; 1 Tim 1:16) We must be like God who is patient with all people.
         2. Kindness (chrestotoes) – meaning goodness, sweetness or mellow. It does not cause discomfort or pain. A way of putting others at ease.
         3. Goodness (agathosune) – generosity that reaches beyond what is due.
      3. Faithfulness, Gentleness & Self Control
         1. Faithfulness (pistis) – trustworthiness. Someone who is true and reliable.
         2. Gentleness (praotes) – a humble, submissive, kind demeanor that helps calm another’s anger
         3. Self-Control (enkrateia) – self-mastery especially over desires and appetites
3. **Do We Love By The Spirit So We May Bear Fruit?**
   1. Dead or Alive (5:24-26)
      1. We learn to bear fruit once we pick up our cross and crucify the flesh along with its desires and follow Jesus by His Spirit. It is a slow life long process hence that it is why Jesus said “daily”.
   2. Cultivating Fruit
      1. Must grow in the right atmosphere and environment. One that is rooted in God’s word and one that walks with the Spirit as He lives out the Word. It may require us to pull some weeds.
      2. Fruit is produced to be eaten not admired and displayed. People are starving for love, joy, peace etc. Let’s feed them by yielding to the Spirit and bearing fruit!