

Subject: The Importance of The Fruit of The Spirit In the Discipleship Process

Question to Ponder

1. What kind of fruit are you producing? What are some ways we can "water" and "fertilize" the fruit of the spirit to help them to grow?
2. If a person said to you that they don't see much of the fruit of the Spirit in their life, what counsel would you give?
3. What fruit do you most recognize in yourself? Which of the fruit of the spirit do you particularly need to ask God to grow in you through His Spirit?

Main Point of Today's Message

Spiritual fruit is simply the outward expression of an inward change that is being guided by the Holy Spirit. Your fruit reveals outward what has taken place in your heart.

Life Application

"When you become a Christian, God places His Holy Spirit inside you to help you to "walk as Jesus walked." The Holy Spirit will cause the fruit to grow in your life, if you allow him to. But you need to provide the "good soil" that Jesus talked about in the parable and you need to be willing to listen, and willing to do what God tells you. And you need to be willing to provide daily fertilizer and water through your study of the Bible and by seeking God's will through prayer. Finally, you need to be careful of the weeds that grow in your life and be willing to get rid of anything that keeps you from growing in your relationship with God."

Quote & Diagram By prisonnet.org

Fruit of the Spirit	Worldly Values
Love	Hatred
Joy	Sadness and hopelessness
Peace	Strife
Patience	Impatience
Kindness	Hostility
Goodness	Corruption
Faithfulness	Faithlessness
Gentleness	"Macho" power
Self-control	Lack of self-control

Scripture Text

Matt 7:16-20 NKJV

16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 **Therefore by their fruits you will know them.**

Luke 6:43-45 KJV

43 "For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. 44 For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. 45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

John 15:1-5, 8 NLT

15 "**I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit,** and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. 3 You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. **For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.** 5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

8 **When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.**

Phil 1:11 NLT

11 **May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—**for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Gal 5:16-17, 19-23 NLT

16 **So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives.** Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. 17 **The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.** 19 **When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear:** sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, **that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.** 22 **But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives:** love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control...