

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Previously, we looked at how God gave Abraham the blueprint of salvation through the seed. However, due to disobedience, the law was given as a temporary guardrail. Yet, sin took advantage of the law to condemn and kill. As a result, in a spiritual sense, we died in sin—bound in chains, unresponsive, and utterly helpless on the other side of death.

The only way to be saved was for someone not under the power of sin and death to come to the other side of death and preach to us. This is what Christ did. He lived under the law and fulfilled it perfectly, never sinning, and therefore denied death any claim over Him. Being blameless, He entered Hades, tore the veil that alienated the gentiles, broke the chains that bound us, and raised us with Himself. He hid us in Himself and presented us to God holy and blameless – both Jews and gentiles as promised to Abraham.

Now, it is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us. His resurrection life is alive within us. Our lives are now led by His Spirit, and we bear fruit in Him.

THE FRUIT

(Galatians 5:22–23 NLT)

“But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

(John 15:5 NLT)

“Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”

- **The Holy Spirit produces** — He is both the author and finisher of this work. This is not self-effort but Spirit-formation.
- **Produces** — develops, generates, and grows continuously. This is not instant but a lifelong process.
- **Much fruit** – complete fruit from one level to another.
- This fruit is not seasonal like natural fruit; it endures through every season of life.

Scripture says “fruit” (singular), not “fruits.” It is one fruit with multiple expressions. Think of it like an orange with nine segments. Each segment reveals a characteristic: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

These are not independent traits—they are interconnected expressions of one life. The fruit develops as a complete package. We don’t “choose” patience but reject self-control. The Spirit forms the whole character of Christ in us.

You cannot say, “I have love, but I don’t have patience,” because love is not separate from patience or kindness. In fact, (*“Love is patient, love is kind...” — 1 Corinthians 13:4*)

Different situations reveal different aspects of the same fruit, but it all flows from the same Spirit.

This fruit may appear strange to the world. Loving your enemies, showing kindness to competitors, or having peace in chaos can seem like weakness, foolishness, or poor strategy—but it is the life of Christ.

LOVE

I would love to explore each attribute, but time does not allow. So, we will focus on love—knowing that whatever the Spirit reveals here applies to the other expressions of the same fruit.

(Romans 5:5 NLT)

“For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.”

(1 John 4:19)

“We love each other because he loved us first.”

- God’s love comes first, enabling our ability to love.
- Love is a response to divine love, not a human effort to initiate it.

This explains why we find ourselves loving others. We do not initiate love—we respond to the love we have first received from God.

Illustration: The Magnet and the Nails

Imagine a box full of iron nails. These nails do not attract one another, and you can easily pick one out.

Now imagine attaching one nail to a strong magnet. When you bring that nail near the box, it begins to pull the other nails toward itself.

The nail might wonder, “*What is happening to me? Why am I attracting others?*”

If we could answer, we would say:

“You are attracting others because a strong magnet first touched you. You are now channelling the power you have received.”

On the other hand, if the nail disconnects from the magnet, it loses that power.

In the same way, we love because we have first been connected to God’s love.

CONCLUSION

This morning, I encourage us to continue yielding to the Spirit and allowing Him to manifest His life in us. Let us not quench the Spirit, but remain fully yielded and in step with Him.

Think of a yielded life like a mirror reflecting light. We are like mirrors, strategically positioned by the Holy Spirit to reflect the light and glory of God to the world. It is not our light, and the positioning is done by the Spirit.