

Fruit Bearer #2

Pray: Ask the Lord to teach you about the fruit of the Spirit.

Read: Galatians 5:22-23

The Fruit of the Spirit are Godly attitudes that characterize the lives of only those who belong to God by faith in Christ and possess the Spirit of God. Only the Holy Spirit can produce them, and not our own efforts. When the Holy Spirit fully controls the life of a believer, He produces all these graces. The first three concern our attitude toward God; the next three deals with social relationships and the last three describe principles that guide a Christian's conduct.

A missionary approached a native whom he had not seen before and asked, "Have you ever heard the gospel?" "No," he replied, "but I have seen it. I know a man who used to be the terror of the neighbourhood. He was a bad opium smoker and as dangerous as a wild beast. But he became completely changed. He is now gentle and good and has left off opium."

The natural consequence of being saved is to increase, slowly but surely, in these nine fruit of the Spirit. Just as you expect an apple tree to produce apples, a Christian will grow in the nine qualities listed in this lesson. These first three qualities are about our relationship with God, yet affect our relationships with others.

1. Using the verses beside each Fruit of the Spirit, define in your own words the nine qualities that will be produced by the Holy Spirit in your life as you yield to His control.

Love- *John 15:13; Romans 5:8*

Joy- *1 Peter 1:8; Philippians 4:4*

Peace- *John 14:27; Romans 8:28*

Longsuffering/ patience- *1 Timothy 1:15,16*

Kindness- *Matthew 11:28-29*

Goodness- *Romans 5:7; 2 Thessalonians 1:11*

Faithfulness- *Philippians 2:7-9; Revelation 2:10*

Gentleness- *James 1:21; Ephesians 4:2*

Self-Control- *1 Corinthians 9:25; 2 Peter 1:5,6*

2. Which fruits of the Spirit are blossoming in your life? Which are still in bud?

3. Since becoming a Christian what is the biggest change you've made in your life?

4. How do you sense God calling you to further change your life?

5. What impact on others could you expect to make on others when you manifest the fruits of the Holy Spirit in your life.

Pray together; asking the Lord to help you learn to walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:25).