

November 13, 2016

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-26

“Bearing The Spirit’s Fruit”

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

- The U.S. Presidential election... “It’s all about character”
 - The Spirit of Jesus wants to produce certain qualities, virtues, character traits in us.
 - The 9 qualities...
 - Which one of these qualities do you want or need more of?

A. The Spirit And The Flesh

- Each is like a “power” or an “orientation”
- Each leads to a certain way of living (“acts” and “fruit”) and each has “desires” (“lusts”)
- A caution...not “neat and tidy” categories

B. The Fruit Of The Spirit

1. If you believe in Jesus **you have His Spirit** (“But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness”—Romans 8:10)
2. Faith gives us Jesus **and the Spirit** (“So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?”—Galatians 3:5)
3. The fruit of the Spirit is **the life of Jesus** in us. (“Now the Lord is the Spirit...”—2 Corinthians 3:17)

4. The Spirit will **gradually** produce fruit in us...sometimes very, very slowly
5. The Spirit will **certainly** produce this fruit in us...it is sure to happen.
6. The Spirit will **internally** produce these qualities in us...“love each other from the heart” (1 Peter 1:22)
7. The Spirit will **comprehensively** produce all of this fruit...not one at the expense of the others
8. The Spirit will produce the fruit **individually and communally** at the same time

C. Which Do You Want / Need More Of??

- Love...to serve someone because they are created in God's image
- Joy...delighting in God for who He is and delighting in others as God's gifts to us
- Peace...resting in God's provision
- Patience...able to face trouble without blowing up
- Kindness...serving other for their good, not for my good
- Goodness...being the same person of integrity in every situation
- Faithfulness...to be reliable and true to your word
- Gentleness...not self-absorbed or feeling superior to others
- Self-control...to not be impulsive and uncontrolled

Praying for more of the fruit of the Spirit.

Reminder: Who are we asking?...