

Thursday, May 28

Scripture

- *Galatians 5:22-26*

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Who is God?

The Holy Spirit produces fruit

Spiritual Encouragement

How can we know the Holy Spirit is working in us to set our mind on the things of God? When the Spirit of God is a work -- transforming us from the inside out -- these characteristics show up in our life (the "fruit" or "harvest" of the Spirit).

It's also important to know the Spirit's work in my life is not revealed primarily through spiritual gifts or ministry actions. ***Before action comes character.* In fact, we know that certain gifts and talents can look great on the outside, but lack spiritual depth and character (see Matthew 7:15-23). The fruit of the Spirit is hard to fake, though (especially with those closest to you).

The fruit of the Spirit is meant to impact how we relate to one another. These fruits benefit others, and those who walk by the Spirit won't display pride or envy toward others. The fruit of the Spirit not only impacts my life, but directly impacts my family, friends, and church, as well.

Father, I truly believe these fruits are supernatural. On my own, I won't seek or produce these characteristics. Teach me again to walk by Your Spirit so my life will bear fruit that glorifies You and is good for those around me. Please continue to transform my life from the inside out, conforming me to the image of Your Son, by the power of Your Holy Spirit.