



CITY CHAPEL

SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

DISCIPLESHIP11: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION

We have looked at the 'gifts' of the Spirit which flow out from God as the source. We will now look at the fruits of the spirit, which flow out from the born-again inner man of the Believer. The life of every true disciple of Christ should bear fruit abundantly. It is not normal for a Believer to be barren.

JESUS IS THE VINE

"I am the true vine; my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch of mine that does not produce fruit. And he trims and cleans every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the words I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch cannot produce fruit alone but must remain in the vine. In the same way, you cannot produce fruit alone but must remain in me.

⁵ "I am the vine, and you are the branches. If any remain in me and I remain in them, they produce much fruit. But without me they can do nothing. ⁶ If any do not remain in me, they are like a branch that is thrown away and then dies. People pick up dead branches, throw them into the fire, and burn them. ⁷ If you remain in me and follow my teachings, you can ask anything you want, and it will be given to you. ⁸ You should produce much fruit and show that you are my followers, which brings glory to my Father. John 15: 1-8

- Only Jesus is the root to enable us produce true eternal fruit
- Which means all other vines are false and will not produce eternal fruit
- God prunes the life every believer so that we produce more fruit
- God is not interested in 'performance' but fruit only
- Fruitless branches are removed by
- God discards or trims EVERY branch...so there's no escape by anyone
- So you are either in or out
- There are no mavericks or lone rangers, we have to remain in the vine.
- God's first focus is to work IN You before He works through you



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- When you produce fruit then your outgrowth can bless others
- Your prayer life becomes more effective as you allow the vine to flow in you
- Abiding in Christ yields great dividends – fruitfulness, answers, witnessing, God glorified,

YOU ARE THE FRUIT

Just to help emphasise the point, the Spirit of God is not the fruit bearer, YOU are. The Holy Spirit is the source (vine) of the river but you are the tree (branch) that bears the fruit

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also does not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper. Psalm 1:2,3

They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be ^[c]fresh and ^[d]flourishing, Ps 92:14

¹⁶You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. John 15:16

UNTIL CHRIST IS FORMED IN YOU

The basic way to understand the concept of the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT is to know that the aim of God is to produce the nature of Jesus in every Christian, this is why the Lord said in the passage above “...follow my teaching”. This is also why Paul was praying for the Galatian congregation

My little children, for whom I labour in birth again until Christ is formed in you. Galatians 4:19

The combination of the fruits of the spirit is ultimately the essence of the nature of God. Allowing the Word of God to dwell within you. This is why we have taught on meditation. As you allow the word of Christ to marinate your heart and mind, you are transformed into more of Christlikeness.

Look at what Colossians chapter three says, which is a mirror of the classic Galatians chapter on the fruit of the spirit. The tone and language is very much similar even though it does not say fruit.



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Colossians 3:12-17 AMP

¹² So, as God's own chosen people, who are holy [set apart, sanctified for His purpose] and well-beloved [by God Himself], put on a heart of **compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness,** and **patience** [which has the power to endure whatever injustice or unpleasantness comes, with good temper]; ¹³ **bearing graciously** with one another, and **willingly forgiving** each other if one has a cause for complaint against another; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so should you forgive.

¹⁴ Beyond all these things put on *and* wrap yourselves in **[unselfish] love**, which is the perfect bond of unity [for everything is bound together in agreement when each one seeks the best for others]. ¹⁵ Let the **peace of Christ** [the inner calm of one who walks daily with Him] be the controlling factor in your hearts [deciding and settling questions that arise]. To this *peace* indeed you were called as members in one body [of believers]. And be thankful [to God always].

¹⁶ Let the [spoken] word of Christ have its home within you [dwelling in your heart and mind—permeating every aspect of your being] as you teach [spiritual things] and admonish *and* train one another with all **wisdom**, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with **thankfulness** in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do [no matter what it is] in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus [and in dependence on Him], giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

A.L.S.O – ALLOW, LET, SUBMIT, OBEY.

The sensation of floating on the surface of water and letting it carry you in its currents is an apt way to describe the principle of surrendering to God and leaving Him to mould and guide you.

LET the word of Christ dwell in you richly....

LET the peace of God rule in your hearts

Means to decide, be umpire, control. An act of your WILL to open the door to Peace, Love, Joy, Life.

Submit– to subject ones self, obey, submit to ones control, yield to another, a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating....

The logo features a red line-art illustration of a city skyline with various church buildings, including a steeple and a dome. Below the illustration, the words "CITY CHAPEL" are written in a red, spaced-out, sans-serif font. Underneath that, "SCHOOL OF MINISTRY" is written in a larger, bold, red, sans-serif font.

CITY CHAPEL SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

Walking in the Spirit

¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. ²⁴ And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

TO BE CONTINUED....