

Fruit of the Spirit

A look at Galatians 5:22-23

By Ryan Tolan



About Me

- “The Engineering M.Div. in Education”
- Husband and father
- Entrepreneur
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Access to Material

- Find slides at <https://rytolan.com>
- Look under Portfolio → Bible

Expectations

- Take accountability for your learning
- Participate in assessments
- Engage in heavy cognitive lifts
- Care for one another (1 Cor 12:25)

Learning Objectives

- PMLO: To equip saints to the unity of faith, knowledge of Christ and maturity demonstrated through building the church in love (Eph. 4:12-16)
- CLO: Determine what fruit is, where it comes from and how to manifest the benefits of bearing fruit in your life (Gal. 5:22-23)

Main Topics

- Nature of Fruit
- Fruit Examples
- Bearing Fruit
- Practical Steps



Introduction

- Interview question: “What are your greatest strengths?”
- What spiritual virtues identify you best?
- We’ll examine a list of virtues described in Galatians 5:22-23

Through examining each virtue individually and collectively, pray that we develop a more mature and impactful relationship with God and others

Overview

- Fruit: collection of virtues
 - The Spirit progressively makes evident in the believer
- Opposed to the evident deeds of the flesh (vv.19-21)
- Understand the virtues (love, joy, peace, etc.):
 - Long-lasting positive characteristics, not temporal feelings
 - Spiritual, not physical
 - Singular fruit: no virtue is optional
- Not all “fruit-bearing” (results) is positive (see Romans 7:4-5)

The Source

- Traced back to the Trinity: “the same God who works all things in all persons” (see 1 Cor. 12:4-6)
- The Spirit is the reason we qualify
 - Unbelievers can only imitate with fake renditions



The Producer

- The Spirit progressively develops godly character in the believer



The Production

- A life and character of godliness expressed in natural actions
 - God should be glorified in your bearing (Romans 7:4-5)
 - Others should benefit from your bearing (One anothers)



Bear Fruit (John 15:2)

- “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.”
- Pruning implies severely cutting away branches/ stems
- Pruning increases fruitfulness and growth



Bear Fruit (John 15:4-5)

- 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot *bear fruit* of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he *bears much fruit*, for apart from Me you can do nothing.
- “Abiding” implies remaining in relationship with Christ
- Only believers “abide” and therefore bear fruit



Bear Fruit (John 15:8)

- My Father is glorified by this, that you *bear much fruit*, and so prove to be My disciples.
- Bearing fruit is evidence of being a disciple of God



Bear Fruit (John 15:16)

- You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and *bear fruit*, and that your *fruit* would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.
- Bearing and keeping your fruit is expected
- Fruit abides as you abide in Christ (vv.4-5)

