



Fresh Fruit: Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit: Lesson 2 (Love)

January 24th & 25th Questions primarily from *Fruits of the Spirit* (Peau, Kuhatschek, Eyre, Scazzero)

LOVE GOD: Read Luke 7: 36-50

1. Think of a person who has “fallen in love.” How are his or her attitudes, priorities, and other relationships affected?
2. In what ways does the woman demonstrate love to Jesus (vv. 36–38)?
3. Imagine yourself at Simon the Pharisee’s dinner table. What might you feel during this woman’s interruption?
4. Why do you think her actions offend Simon (v. 39)?
5. What does it cost this woman to publicly show her love for Jesus?
6. According to Jesus, what does it indicate when a person has little love for him (v. 47)?
7. With whom do you relate more: Simon the Pharisee, who knows the Bible and is very active for God, or this woman, who loves God with reckless abandon? Explain.



8. What obstacles in your life are hindering you from a loving relationship with Jesus?

9. Why is a passionate love for Jesus so vital if we are to have healthy, loving relationships with others?

LOVE OTHERS: Read James 3: 1-12

10. Do you find it easier to speak words of encouragement and blessing to people or to criticize them? Explain.

11. How do a horse's bit and a ship's rudder illustrate the power of the tongue (vv. 3-4)?

12. When have you seen "a great forest ... set on fire" by words?

13. James points out that we can tame almost every kind of bird and beast (v. 7). Why, then, can't we tame the tongue (v. 8)?

14. How can words function as a "deadly poison" in relationships and churches?

15. Think of at least three people with whom you have regular contact. What can you do to love each one with your words?

