Sunday, July 9, 2017 Pastor Jim Grimm Summer Fruit



Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

• These traits represent who He is, they represent His very **nature**.

Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2 Timothy 2:13

If we are faithless, He remains faithful, because He cannot deny His own nature.

His nature <u>lives</u> in you.

John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

- Two principles that will help you **grow** in the fruit of faithfulness.
 - Our ability to produce the fruit of faithfulness is not based on our works, it is based on us putting forth the effort to spend time with the one who is our source of faithfulness.
 - We have to <u>give</u> our fruit away.
- The definition of <u>faithfulness</u> as in pertains to this passage means to be trustworthy, reliable, true to one's word, promises, and vows.

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to

himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

 The only way we can be His ambassadors is by having the Fruit of the Spirit <u>alive</u> and <u>growing</u> in us so that we can give it away.