



PNEUMATOLOGY: THE HOLY SPIRIT
THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT | DECEMBER 14, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Paul exhorted the Galatians to “walk by the Spirit” by conducting themselves according to the Word and the holy desires by which the Spirit was leading them to obey that Word (5:16, 25). Believers are engaged in an inner _____ between the Spirit and the flesh (5:17).

By contrast, perishing sinners experience no such conflict. Instead, they are _____ by nature to their lusts (Romans 6:14-17; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 John 3:10).

LOVE

Christlike, Spirit-produced love is _____ oneself to glorify God and do good to people graciously and righteously — in short, *doing what is best for another* (1 Corinthians 13).

Love is revealed in Jesus’ example as He lived in perfect conformity to the _____ of the Father, and the supreme demonstration of love is the gospel (John 3:16; Romans 5:6-8; 1 John 4:7-10).

Am I glorifying God and serving other people for their good at some cost to myself, or is my love a mere wish or feeling that leads to little or no action? Am I a servant who gives away my life to others or a lord who seeks to make others serve and honor me? Do I love and serve others despite their sins, simply because of God’s grace, or do I withhold love from those I deem unworthy or who have wronged me? Do I have a special love for God’s people such that I would be willing to lay down my life for them?

JOY

Spirit-produced joy is a deep, _____ gladness rooted in God’s saving work and presence, generated by the Holy Spirit rather than by changing circumstances (Philippians 4:4).

Do I consider God, Christ, and His will to be my supreme joys? Do I serve the Lord with gladness, delighting in His greatness and goodness? Am I happiest when serving other people?

PEACE

God creates an objective peace between Himself and His people by the reconciliation that He accomplished through Christ (Ephesians 2:14-16). Because of an objective _____ of peace with God, one can have a subjective inward peace (Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:7).

Do I have the peace of a good conscience, knowing that my sins are forgiven and I am counted righteous by God for Christ’s sake? Am I seeking peace in my relationships with other people? Do I have an experience of inner quietness because God is with me?

PATIENCE

The word translated “longsuffering” is a compound word meaning “slow to anger.” Patience _____ kindly with people who offend, wrong, or injure (1 Corinthians 13:7; Ephesians 4:2).

Do I restrain myself from taking revenge on those who hurt and offend me because I love them? Am I trusting God and waiting patiently on Him to deliver me from my trials?

KINDNESS

Kindness refers to benevolence to others, a disposition to do what is helpful or useful to them. God commands Christians to “put on... kindness,” including in our _____ (Colossians 3:12).

Am I kind toward other people? Does it please me to do good to them, even if I am not noticed or rewarded for it? Do my words communicate, both in content and tone, that other people are valuable?

GOODNESS

The word “goodness” refers to the quality of being or doing good, whether moral or beneficial (Romans 12:9; Galatians 6:10). Some have suggested that goodness includes “_____.”

Am I good to other people? Do I help others at my own expense? Would a review of my actions demonstrate that I am generous with my time, abilities, money, and possessions?

FAITHFULNESS

God is completely worthy of our trust, for He will most surely do what He has said. He acts with consistent righteousness (Numbers 23:19; Titus 1:2). Since God is faithful, His servants must also be true to their _____ and to the God whom they represent (2 Corinthians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 4:2). The greatest test of faithfulness is perseverance through suffering.

Am I a faithful Christian? Is there a consistent righteousness in my life, both in public and in private? Am I a person of God’s Word and a person of my own word?

GENTLENESS

The fruit of the Spirit translated as “meekness” or “gentleness” refers to humble self-restraint that makes one gentle toward those with whom one might be _____ (Matthew 11:29).

Do I deny my pride and cultivate humility before God so that I am gentle with people? Am I curbing my sinful tendency to strive with others and growing in a quiet and meek spirit? Do I forgive those who sin against me and overlook many offenses?

SELF-CONTROL

The word translated as “temperance” or “self-control” is a compound of words meaning “strength within.” This is a Spirit-worked power to control oneself to conform to God’s will despite inward _____ and circumstances that provoke us to sin (1 Corinthians 9:24-25).

Do I exercise self-control over my passions because I love God and people more than my own pleasure and ease? Am I denying myself for the sake of obedience?