

## Sermon Outline

### Sermon Text: Galatians 5:22-23a

**Sermon Title:** Do you have Union and Communion with God? Part 2 of 2

Galatians 5:22-23a says <sup>22</sup> *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,* <sup>23</sup> *gentleness and self-control...* (ESV)

These fruits of the Spirit are not an exhausted list. There are more fruits of the Spirit than these. The fruit of the Spirit is a holy quality trait of Jesus. It is who Jesus is. He is love, joy, peace, gentleness. If you are a follower of Jesus then you are to be just like Jesus.

a. If you have accepted Him as your Lord and Savior then you have the capability of producing these fruits of the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 5:17 *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The **old** has **passed away**; behold, the **new** has come.”* (ESV) If the old things” are **passed away**, it means God doesn’t have a desire for the them **“to come back”** If they come back, it is because you bring them back and it is because you struggle embracing what is “new” because you want to hold to the “old”. The text says, “All things have **become new** and all **those things are from God**.”

b. What is the **new creation**? It's someone who has the greatest opportunity to experience life in the **image and the likeness of God**.

c. When God looks at you, He doesn't see **anything wrong**. He looks at you in the same way he looks at Jesus. Why? because He is making you into that image and into likeness. He only sees **what is missing**? What is missing? **The new man**.

1. Jesus said in John 14:27 *“<sup>27</sup> **Peace** I leave with you; **my peace** I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be **afraid**.”* (NIV)

2. When God sees you he doesn't see you as a fearful or anxious person because that person died.

3. He sees the **peace person**. Why do you think the father put Jesus into you? It's so that everything that Jesus is, could become you.

4. So, when you **are not** walking in Peace then you need to ask the Holy Spirit to turn Jesus loose in you! Those two have been in partnership or in collaboration for a long time. God doesn’t want you to work on your fear and anxiety more than He wants you to discover and walk into the Peace He put in you.

d. If **you taste** each one of these fruits of the Spirit, they teach you a lesson. For example, as you learn to love then you can practice being a loving person. How do you do? John 15:4-5.

John 15:4-5 *“<sup>4</sup> **Remain** in me, as I also **remain** in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you **remain** in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; **apart from me you can do nothing**.”* (NIV)

a. Paul said in Galatians 5:22-23 that the fruit of spirit is *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control*. These are not automatic behaviors you exemplify once you become a Christians. Jesus said you have to abide and remain, have constant communion in Him for these fruits to be multiplied, produced and lived out in your life.

b. In John 15:1-10 God is reminding us of where the fruit comes from. **What is the purpose of the fruit?** What is in fruit? What is the purpose of the apple on the apple tree? What is on the inside of the apple? What makes something fruit? It has **seeds** in it. The **fruit** is the place where **the seeds** come from. And who is the fruit benefiting? Does an apple tree benefit from its fruit? Yes.

1. The problem with so many Christians is they have turned the fruits of the Spirit into a **list of virtues**. They have primarily made each of them about how it will benefits their life.

2. If we are going to see leaders and churches multiply and produce fruit that remain then we must make sure they understand that the **fruit of Spirit** are not about a moral tweaking or living a little better but it is about **remaining** and **abiding** so **we can be transformed into the likeness of Jesus**. The fruit is born out of an **abiding**, connected, ongoing, sustaining, remaining relationship with Jesus.

3. What is the source **of love** in a believer's life. What is the source **of peace** in a believer life? It is Jesus. But what does your practice or life demonstrate?

a. James 1:22 says “*But be **doers** of the word, and not **hearers** only, deceiving yourselves.*” (ESV) You can attend to every Bible Conference in the world, read your Bible every day, but it will not change your life. Only until **you do what Jesus** says, will you **produce fruit**.

b. This is why we say **abiding** and **communion** with Jesus is everything. This is why we say this is **who we are**.

c. Abiding and Communion with Jesus is not **just about** more time alone with Jesus in Bible Study and Quiet time in. No. We must recognize **where the fruit comes from**. What did Jesus say would happen if the fruit came from abiding? What would happen with that fruit? **IT WOULD REMAIN**. John 15:4 John 15:4-8 “***Remain** in me, as I also **remain** in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you **remain** in me.* <sup>5</sup> “*I am the vine; you are the branches. If you **remain** in me and I in you, **you will bear much fruit**; apart from me you can do nothing.*” <sup>6</sup> “*If you do not **remain** in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.*” <sup>7</sup> “*If **you remain** in me and my words **remain** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*” <sup>8</sup> “*This is to my Father’s glory, that **you bear much fruit**, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*” **JESUS SAID THE FRUIT WILL REMAIN**.

**There is a lot of things that LOOK like fruit. But they are plastic fruit.** For some of us our lives look like it is real fruit but much of it is plastic fruit.

What is the sign that something is fruit? **It has seeds**. What is seed for? Reproduction. Multiplication.

a. God is calling the church and its members to fruitfulness where **the seed** is producing **multiplication** and **reproduction**.

b. But in order for some things to multiply and reproduce we must change the environment. Why? Because when the environment is right, the seed can bloom and blossom.

1. You can't see exponential multiplication unless that fruit remains and has seed in it.

2. As followers of Jesus through our own transformation from abiding and remaining in Jesus we need to create environments **where seeds can flourish**.

3. The Churches and its members need to make sure their environments are set up for seeds to grow. We need to give it water. When the soil is hard then the rain can't penetrate it. It just runs off. We need to assess the soil. If we will assess the soil and make it better, the seeds will grow.

4. There is no problem with the Good News of Jesus. It works.

If you plant one seed. You get one tree. Right? One apple seed equal one apple tree, right? How many apples does an apple tree produce? Hundreds. How many seeds are in each other? Thousands. This is why fruitfulness is the key.

We're going move from **addition to multiplication** So let's look together.

Acts 2:41 <sup>41</sup> *So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about **three thousand souls**.* (ESV)

Now look what happens in Acts 2:42-47 <sup>42</sup> *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup> And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. **And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.**" (ESV)*

So now we are seeing this incredible reality, God is adding more and more.

Now look what happens in Acts 4:4 <sup>4</sup> *But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about **five thousand**.*" (ESV)

We started with 3,000, right? Now we've got 5,000 men. We are **getting addition**, we're getting to the point where our numbers are too large to count the crowd. But if we count them we have 5,000 households now.

Look at what happens in Acts 5:14 <sup>14</sup> *And more than ever believers **were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.**" (ESV)*

We are adding a lot. Now look at what happens with **fruitfulness, reproduction and multiplication takes place in our churches and in our lives.**

Did you know?

1. If You start 1 corn seed; it produces 1,600 seeds(That's the average)
2. If You plant all 1,600 seeds back into the ground, and each of those produces 1,600 seeds more.
3. To find the total number of seeds after this second planting, multiply 1,600 seeds by 1,600 seeds per plant:
4. You will have an impressive **2,560,000 seeds** after planting all 1,600 seeds, each producing 1,600 more seeds.

Let's see it in real time from the Bible.

Look at what happens in Acts chapter 6:7 *"<sup>7</sup> And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the **disciples multiplied** greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith."* (ESV)

You see what's happening here? We now move from **addition** to **multiplication**. We are now seeing the **disciples multiplying**. Beyond just the teaching of the apostles, beyond just the ministry that was happening in the temple, and the Lord's house adding people, but we're seeing **disciples** now being able to **multiply**.

**Why is that going to be important?**

Look at Acts 8:1 *"<sup>1</sup> And there arose on that day a great persecution against **the church** in Jerusalem, and **they were all scattered** throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except **the apostles**."* (ESV)

Who is still that in Jerusalem? The Apostles. They are the **addition part**. The addition part was happening as the apostles were preaching and teaching, lots of people added.

But **as the disciples** begin to **multiply**, and persecution happens, **the question is what will happen?**

Look at Acts 8:4 *"<sup>4</sup> Now those **who were scattered** went about **preaching the word**."* (ESV)

Now the **multiplying disciples**, leave Jerusalem and keep on **multiplying**. **What is the result?**

Look at Acts 9:31 *"<sup>31</sup> So **the church** throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was **being built up**. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it **multiplied**."* (ESV)

Now we're seeing **multiplied disciples** who are preaching the gospel, and we are now seeing **multiplied churches**.

Look at Act 16:5 “<sup>5</sup> So **the churches** were strengthened in the faith, and they **increased in numbers daily**.” (ESV)

Remember, that's the thing that was said originally about **the disciples**. But now we're seeing **churches** that are increasing daily.

That's not the only spot where we see this multiplying taking place or mentioned.

Look at Acts 17:6 “*These men who have **turned the world upside down** have come here also..*” (ESV)

Do you see what **multiplication** has done? By the time we reach Acts chapter 17, the testimony of the church is they have **turned the whole world upside down**.

Look at Colossians 1:3-6 “<sup>3</sup>We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup>since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, <sup>6</sup>which has come to you, as indeed **in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing**—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth.” (ESV)

Why did the church **turned the whole world upside down**? Because **seed multiplies**. Where do the fruit come from? It is through **Abiding**.

Where does fruit come from? Jesus told us. **By remaining**. Look John 15:4-5 “<sup>4</sup>**Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.** <sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you **remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.**” (NIV)

Let's stop trying to do it a different way than Jesus laid out for us.

a. When Peter and Jesus had to pay their temple tax. What did Jesus tell Peter to do? Matthew 17:24-27 “<sup>24</sup> After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, “Doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?”<sup>25</sup> “Yes, he does,” he replied. When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. “What do you think, Simon?” he asked. “From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?”<sup>26</sup> “From others,” Peter answered. “Then the children are exempt,” Jesus said to him. <sup>27</sup>“But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; **open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin**. Take it and give it to them **for my tax and yours**.” (NIV)

b. **Where was the fruit?** The provision was in the harvest. It was in the fish.. The fruit, the **seed of transformation** in our cities, and in our families are enormous.

c. We need to get the church back to **internal connection** with Jesus. **We are multiplying the wrong thing.** We are multiplying the student. **The analogy that the Bible chose to use isn't student for multiplying and reproduction.** It is the marriage, family, and abiding connection analogy. We don't need more smart **bible students** in our churches. We need disciples that **remain, abide** and **multiply**. Amen

If you don't know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. And God is has been speaking to you about your fruit. And you realize that you don't the fruits of the Spirit in your life. And your life plan can't produce or multiply and produce real fruit, only "False Fruit or plastic fruit" that the world celebrates. If you want to have the fruits of the Spirit and have them produced and multiplied in your life for a lifetime then surrender your life to Jesus. And start the Journey of Abiding and Remaining in Him. If that is you then pray **this prayer**: Jesus today I want the real lasting fruit of the Spirit in my life. I don't want "false fruit or plastic fruit". I ask you to forgive me of my sins. I accept you as my Lord and Savior. Come live inside of me and fill me with your Holy Spirit-Amen