

THE GIVER **AND** HIS GIFTS

The Giver and His Gifts Series

Part 4

March 6, 2022

The Fruit of the Spirit Part 1

Galatians 5:16-26, ¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I

warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.”

The Fruit is the Proof of the Power of the Holy Spirit being in our Lives
“The Gifts are the Power but the Fruit is the Proof!”

1. The Gifts may be the Power of Christ but the Fruit is the Character of Christ!

- a. There is no Law prohibiting us from walking in the Spirit but there is a law that prohibits us from living in the flesh.
- b. We must understand that we cannot say that we are a spiritual but perpetually live and demonstrate the fruit of our flesh.
- c. “Well Pastor, I’m no longer under the law but I’m under grace.”
Ok, so let’s dissect that perspective for a moment... What does the Scripture bare out regarding that viewpoint and statement?

- d. Romans 6:1-2, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?”
- e. Romans 6:14-15, “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!”

2. The Holy Spirit is never Rude but it is always Truthful!

- a. Someone who walks in the Spirit of Truth will be in partnership with the Truth to be Impactful
- b. 1 John 5:6-8, “⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.”
- c. Notice that the Apostle John makes it clear that it is the Spirit that is the Truth; that the Spirit testifies of the Truth along with the Water and the Blood!

- d. Truth being ministered by the Power of the Holy Spirit through the life of a person who has the Fruit of the Holy Spirit self-evident, that is the most effective means by which we partner with the Holy Spirit to impact the world around us
- e. When we are in the Spirit, our audience will know it; when are in the flesh, our audience will know it. Walk in the Spirit.

3. The Fruit of the Spirit is meant to be Produced and Consumed; Not Hidden!

- a. The Fruit of the Holy Spirit facilitates two specific things:
 - i. It Feeds
 - ii. It Seeds

1. It contains within itself the ability to multiply itself

- b. The Fruit of the Holy Spirit is the Byproduct of Correction

- i. The Gospel of Saint John 15:1-8, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear

fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

c. Jesus expects us as His Disciples to bear the Fruit of the Holy Spirit and by this Fruit of the Spirit is the Father glorified!

d. One of the scariest scriptures in the entirety of the Bible, in my opinion, is found in Hebrews 10:26-31, ²⁶ "For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the

one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?³⁰ For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.”³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

- e. This passage of text offers to us a very sobering reality that should shake all of us from our lethargy! If we perpetuate a spirit of rebellion unto sin after having come unto the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sin.
- f. The point is this; if we refuse to repent when we have been confronted with truth and grace and continue to live in sin then judgment is doomed to come upon our lives. For example, the Apostle Paul gives us insight into this matter found in his letter to Timothy in 1 Timothy chapter 1...
- g. 1 Timothy 1:18-20, ¹⁸This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, ¹⁹holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made

shipwreck of their faith, ²⁰ among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.”

4. The Fruit of the Spirit is the One thing we can't Fake in our Faith

Walk!

- a. When we live our lives in and through the Holy Spirit, others will recognize that you have fruit that is contrary to your humanity!
- b. But say this with me, “There is a difference between Leaves and Fruit!” Let me explain...
- c. Matthew 21:18-20, ¹⁸ “In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. ¹⁹ And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once. ²⁰ When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, “How did the fig tree wither at once?”

- d. When the leaves of our lives draw people to us but the fruit of our lives doesn't impact people then we are just as this fig tree noted in Matthew 21; we have the signs of fruitfulness without the fruit.
- i. Adam and Eve - Covered with leaves but not Fruitful
 - ii. Jesus - Fig Tree - Covered with leaves but not fruitful
- e. Leaves are signs of fruitfulness but without the fruit, the leaves are deceptive.
- f. You can have leaves without fruit but you can't have fruit without leaves; we must both bear the sign and the substance of our Faith in Christ!
- g. 1 Timothy 3:1-5, **“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.”**

h. What does Paul say? “Avoid such people” Avoid those who have leaves but no fruit. Avoid those who have a form of Godliness but deny the power thereof. This is the reason why Jesus cursed the fig tree and this is the very same reason that we must bear fruit. He expects more from us than Leaves...