

Day 9: Spiritual Empowerment ~ Fruit of the Spirit

I've talked about the power of God, healing, freedom, being filled with the Spirit, and the power of God. These are amazing aspects, but there is more. The Lord wants us to grow and become more like Him. The world needs to see the character of God and not just His power. His power draws people but it doesn't keep them living in freedom. In order to live consistently with peace and joy, we must learn and grow in our dependence on the Spirit and our character molded.

There is a hard truth that we must grow in the fruit of the Spirit to operate in the power of the Spirit. There are always exceptions, but this is the general theology.

What are the fruit of the Spirit? Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

The daily pursuit entails putting to death our fleshly ways of dealing with situations and people. When we overflow with the Spirit, we are more patient, kind, and full of love. The goal is not perfection, because we all fail. The Lord only desires that we grow. Our lives should reflect a progression, what we looked like two years ago should be different than today. If you have not grown in patience or self-control, then the fruit is stagnant. It's time to allow the Spirit to manifest in your life through the fruit.

May our prayer be as David prayed, Psalm 139:23-24, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Day 9 Worksheet

Read Galatians 5:22-23 again. Write the fruit of the Spirit.

What areas do you feel you have learned and grown in? How did the fruit form in you? For example, What happened that made you grow in patience or self-control or any area?

Name two areas that you sense the Lord wants to grow the fruit of the Spirit in your life. Why those areas?

There is much power in the Holy Spirit. Sometimes people become too focused on the power and not on becoming more like Jesus. Why do you think that happens?

Write two action steps on how you will grow in the fruit of the Spirit today.
