FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT Session 1 – The

I. Galatians 5:16-23 (NKJV)

¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: ^[a]adultery,

^[b]fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, ^[c]murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ ^[d]gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

A. Born again people are born of the Spirit.

1. We are to Walk in the Spirit – (Live by the Spirit) 2. We are to be led by the Spirit 3. Living and walking in the spirit is the process of overcoming the flesh 4. Overcoming the flesh is not just saying NO to the flesh, it is yielding

- (saying yes to) the Spirit. 5. The more we say yes to the Spirit living within us, the more we will
- overcome the flesh. 6. Overcoming the flesh is included in the process of us receiving our

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 We will not inherit ALL that God has for us if we yielding to our flesh.

Galatians 5:19-21 (NKJV) –

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^[b]fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery,

hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, ^[c]murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

This is not speaking of saved and lost

• This is speaking of the inheritance of a saved person

• It is possible to be saved and make it to heaven and never receive the fullness of your inheritance that is provided for you here on earth.

• Many will go to inherit heaven as their eternal destination, yet never receive their kingdom inheritance while still living on earth.

• How many of you are saved but still have issues yielding to the flesh?

• How many of you still need to develop the Fruit of the Spirit in your life?

II. The Development of the Fruit of the Spirit in our Lives is Absolutely

Essential in Receiving our Inheritance

A. Fruit = Inheritance

B. Continual Yielding to the Flesh = Inheritance Lost

C. There is an inheritance that you might not possess

receiving what

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D. Yielding to the flesh hinders you in belongs to you, (That which Jesus has made available).

E. Yielding to the fruit of the Spirit will cause you to inherit what

belongs to you

Hebrews 6:11-12 (NIV) – ¹¹We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. ¹²We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

1. The saved need to be diligent with the things that relate to the

Christian life

2. We inherit what Jesus provides through FAITH & PATIENCE.

(Note: Both are included in the fruit of the Spirit)

3. Once we are saved – We must partake of our

inheritance by

yielding to the Spirit to produce the fruit of faith and patience

4. Many blessings of our inheritance will be lost if we do not yield to

His fruit.

III. The maximum blessing of God's power in our life comes when the

FRUIT and Gifts are manifested in our life. The Fruit and Gifts of the Spirit go together!

A. Many in the body of Christ are focused on their spiritual gifts and

individual calling; however, we need a balance of fruit and power to be effective in the kingdom.

1. Examples of fruit and power combined in the lives of the disciples.

Acts 6:3 (KJV) – ³Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

Acts 11:22-24 (NIV) – ²²News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³When he arrived

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and saw what the grace of God encouraged them all to remain t

their hearts. ²⁴He was a good man, full of LtOR Boly Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the

Acts 22:12-13 (NKJV) – 12 "Then a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good testimony with all the Jews who dwelt there, 13 came to me; and he stood and said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that same hour I looked up at him

• All of these were used in the power gifts, but scripture confirms that they also had yielded lives to the fruit of the Spirit.

2. **1 Corinthians 12:31 (NIV) –** ³¹Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

And yet I will show you the most excellent way

• Paul's next statement was; "Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal"

• Paul is reminding us that without the fruit of love the gifts spoken of in the previous chapter will be meaningless.

• Follow LOVE and the gifts will flow

• Developing the fruit of the Spirit in your life and especially the fruit of LOVE will open doors of release and promotion for your gifts.

• Our spiritual gifts are nothing without the accompanying

fruit of LOVE.

IV. The Fruit of the Spirit is about Being Like Jesus

A. When I am born again, my Spirit is just like Jesus

B. My Soul is being conformed more and more into His image.

Image and

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C. My SOUL realm is being conformed to the Likeness of Jesus that is already a reality in my born-again spirit.

D. God's highest purpose for Christians is to make us like Jesus.

Romans 8:28-29 (KJV) – ²⁸And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. ²⁹For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

E. Jesus is the supreme example of one who was completely yielded to the Holy Spirit 1. He only spoke that which he heard the Father say-Jn 8:28

2. He only did that which he saw the Father do. Jn 5:18-20

F. Nothing ATTRACTS unbelievers and believers alike to God as

much as seeing a Christian yielded to a life of the Spirit, flowing with fruit – love, joy, peace and so on.

G. Nothing DETRACTS from the integrity and effectiveness of our

message and ministry as much as a live lived contrary to Jesus' life – the fruit of the Spirit.

H. Everyone has examples of when they FAILED to yield to the

Spirit and allowed the FLESH to hinder their Christian testimony.

I. Jesus said, ...by their fruits you will know them – Matt 7:15-20

validity

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1. Jesus says, the way to discern the reality and

of a person's ministry is to check out their fruit

2. Not everyone who names the name of Jesus, prophesies good

things, cast out devils, heals the sick and does signs and wonders is a true ministry that represents Jesus and is worthy

3. Fruit is Important – Check it out! Questions to ask about

yourself and others.

The Fruit Test

• How do they treat their spouse and children?

• *How do they speak about people?*

• Are they submitted to a local church and pastor?

• Do they value the written word over a prophetic word?

• Do they point to Jesus or keep people dependent upon

themselve s?

• How does their life and ministry line up with the fruit of

the Spirit?

V. Paul's Prayer for the Philippians

Philippians 1:9-11 (NIV) – ⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ-to the glory and praise of God.

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