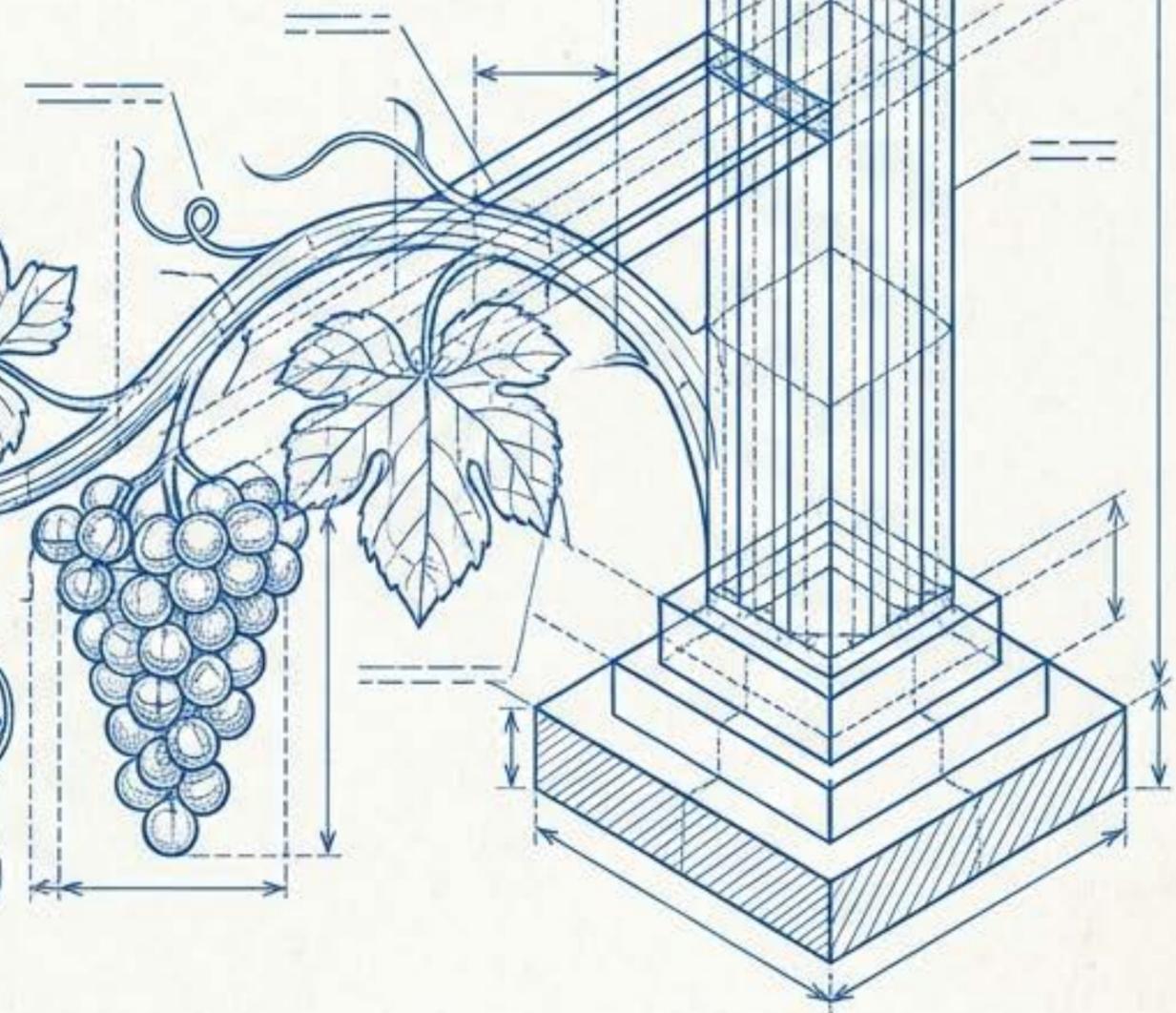
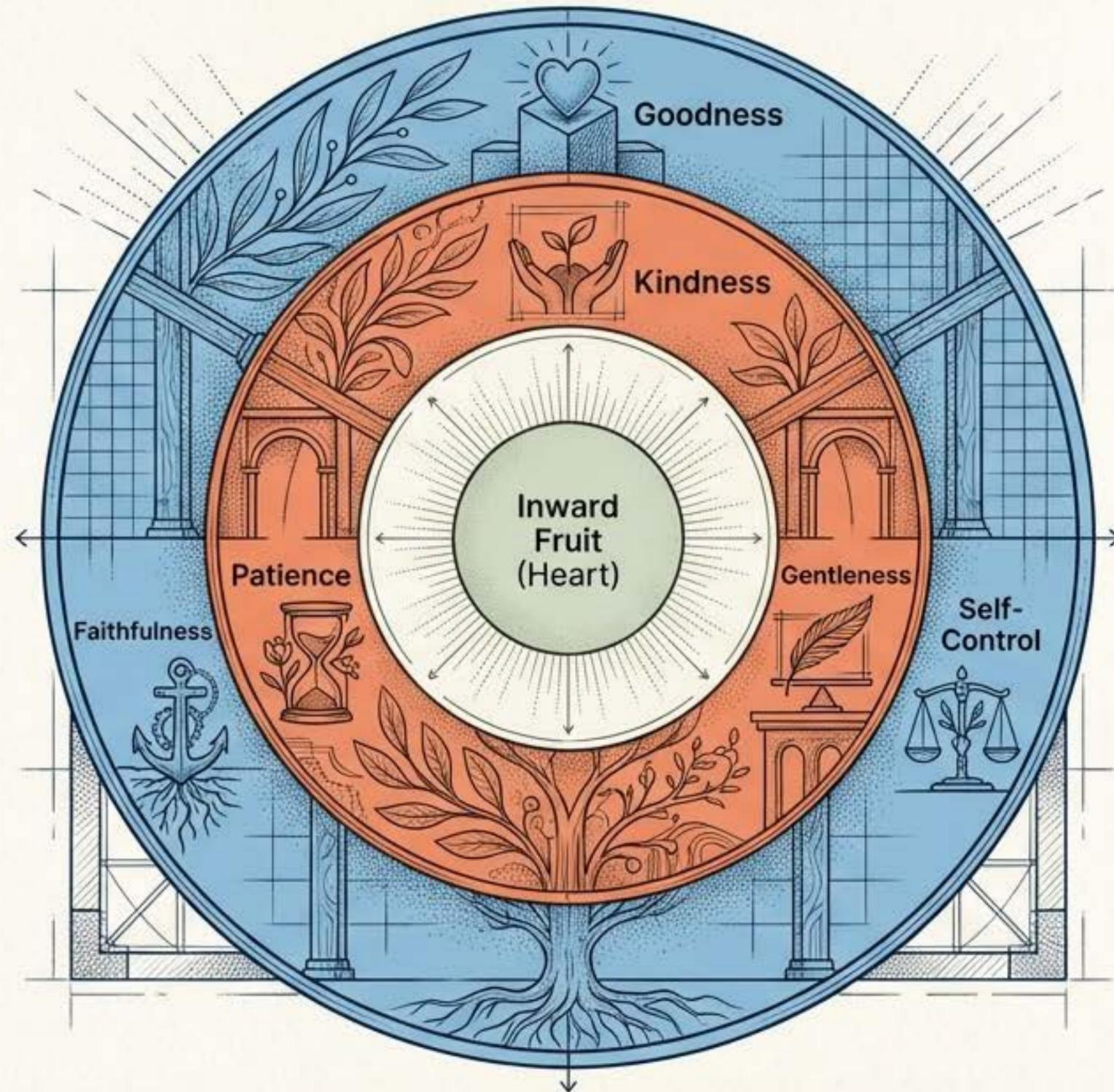


# Fruit for Life: The Spirit in Relationship and Character

Moving from how we feel to how we live.



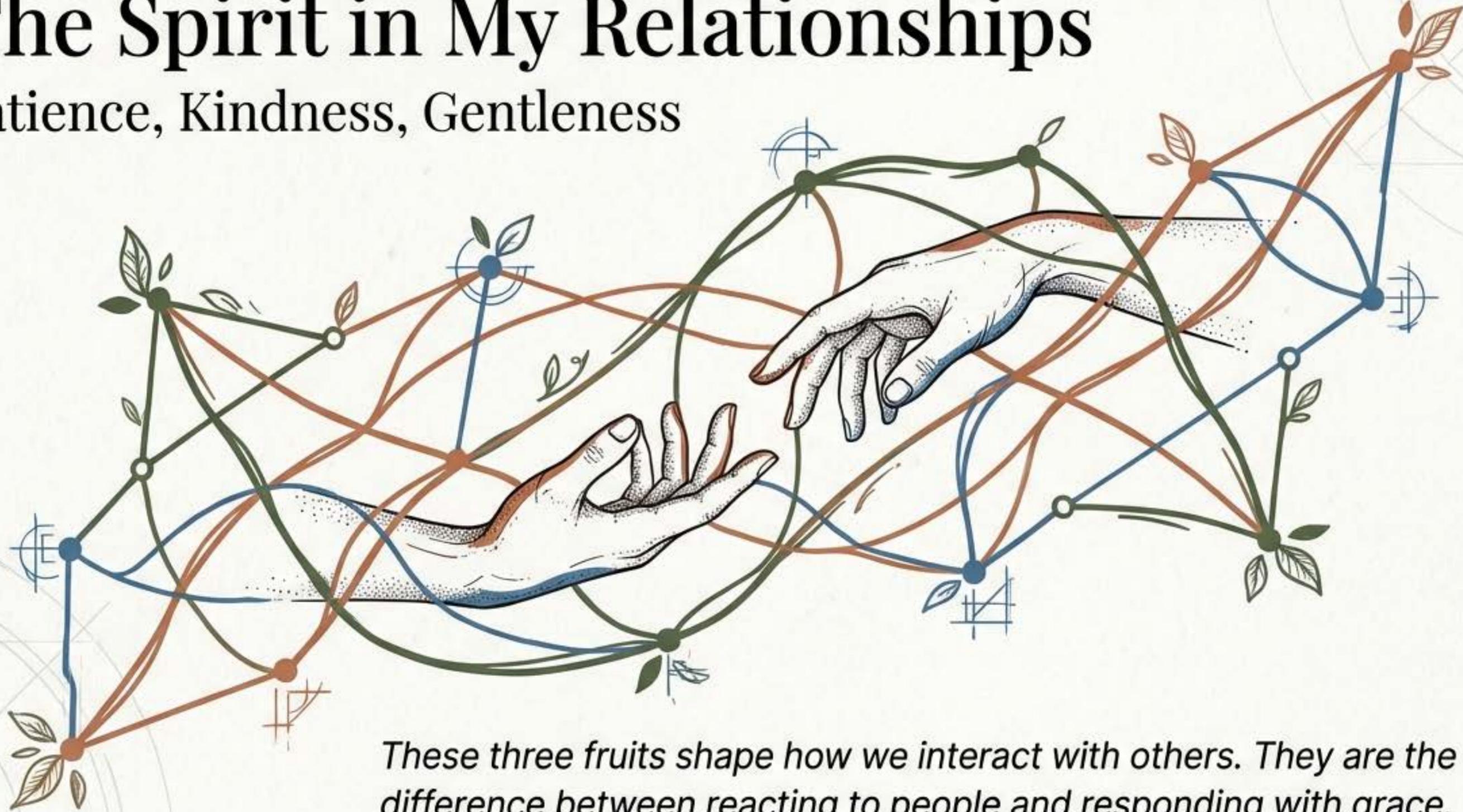
# The Spirit changes who we become, not just how we feel.



We are transitioning from the internal to the external. The Spirit moves from the heart, to our relationships, to the hidden roots of our character.

# The Spirit in My Relationships

Patience, Kindness, Gentleness

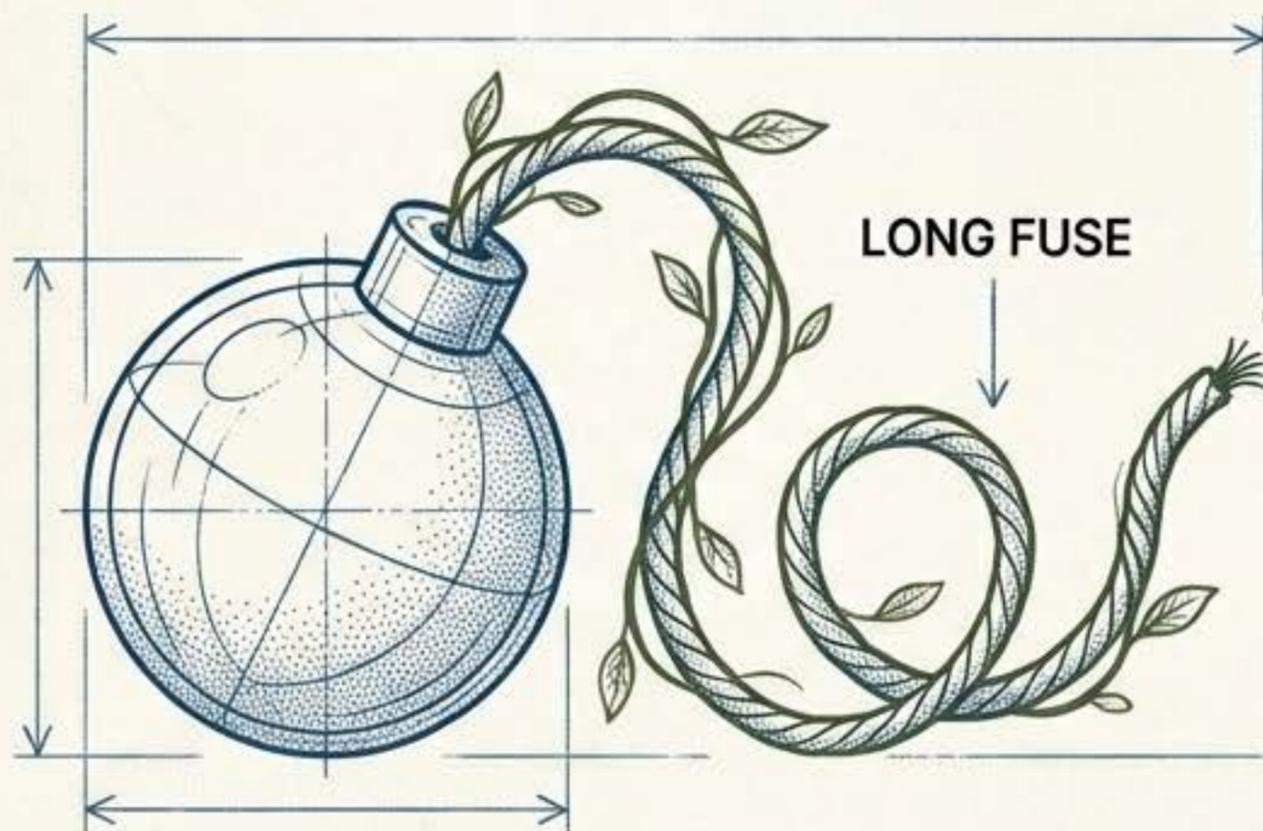


*These three fruits shape how we interact with others. They are the difference between reacting to people and responding with grace.*

# Patience (Makrothymia) is active endurance.

## Etymology: Makrothymia

Makros (Long) + Thymos (Temper) = Long-tempered



## The Flesh

Wants to snap and retaliate.

## The Spirit

Refuses to retaliate; responds with grace.

## Real-World Application

In Marriage: When a spouse forgets an anniversary or fails a responsibility, **patience does not build resentment**. It avoids making the other person feel like they are walking through a minefield.

**Colossians 3:12**

# Kindness (Chrēstotēs) is a tenderhearted disposition.

## Etymology: Chrēstotēs

Benevolence, graciousness, moral kindness.



## The Flesh

Bitterness, wrath, and harshness.

## The Spirit

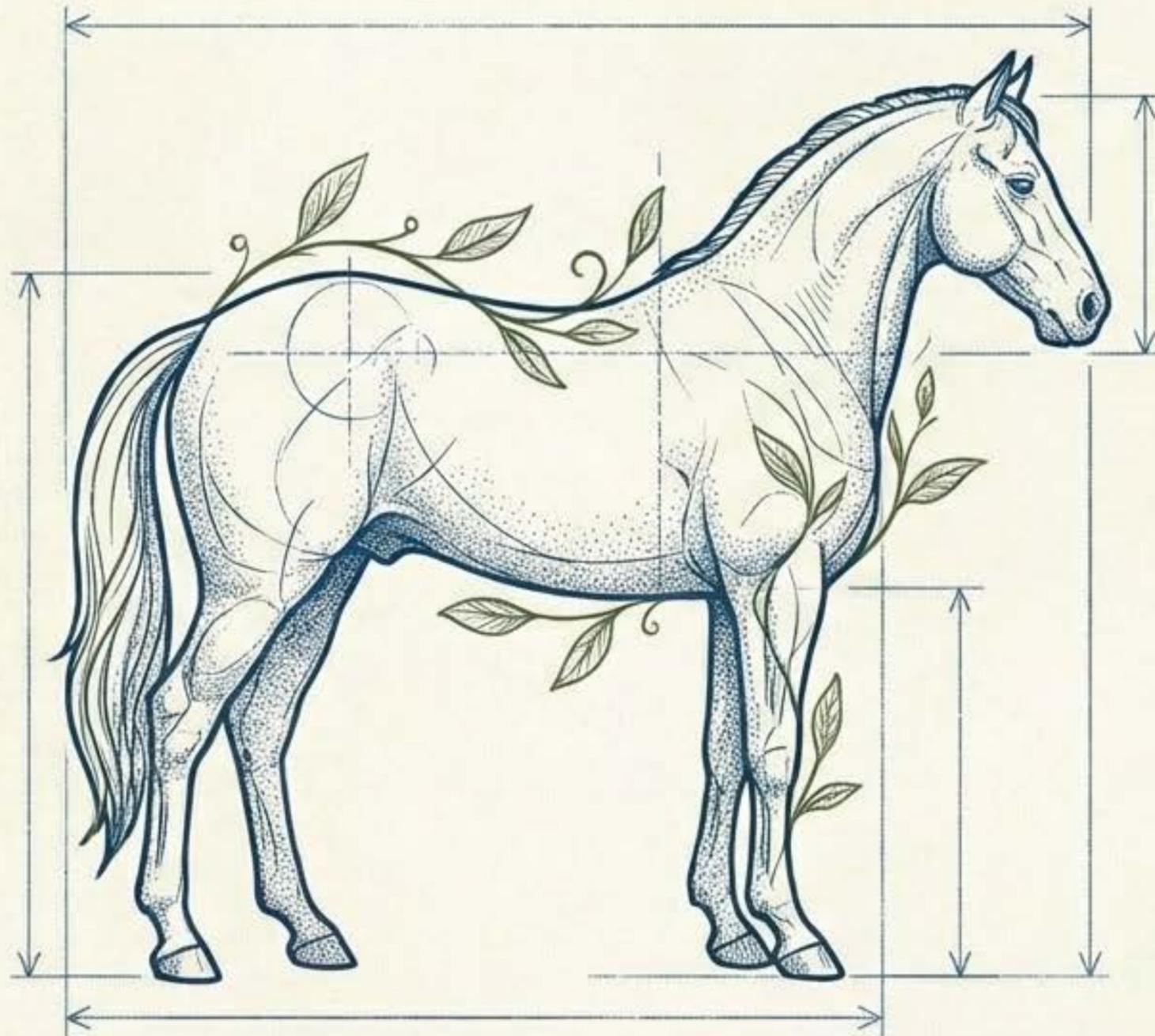
Tenderheartedness and forgiveness (Eph 4:32).

## Real-World Application

In Parenting:  
Correcting a child firmly but tenderly. It means de-escalating anger rather than reacting to it, ensuring the issue is the child's behavior, not the parent's temper.

It is the kindness of God that leads to repentance. (Romans 2:4)

# Gentleness (Prautēs) is strength under control.



## Etymology: Prautēs

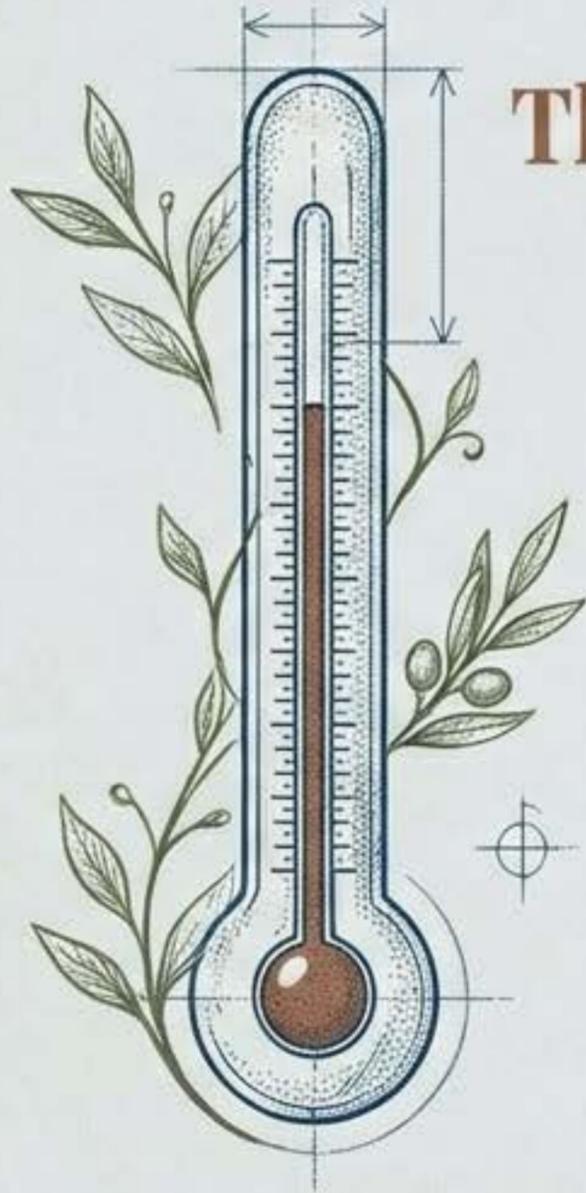
Often translated as meekness, used in ancient Greek to describe a wild horse that has been tamed.

## Real-World Application

In the Workplace  
When a colleague makes a costly mistake, gentleness corrects them privately with humility rather than public criticism.

**Gentleness is not weakness;**  
it is *power* submitted to God.

# Are you reflecting the room, or changing it?



## The Thermometer

**The Flesh.**  
Reacts to the environment.  
Matches heat with heat.  
Reflects the temperature.

## The Thermostat

**The Spirit-Filled Believer.**  
Changes the environment.  
Brings grace into tension.  
Sets the temperature.



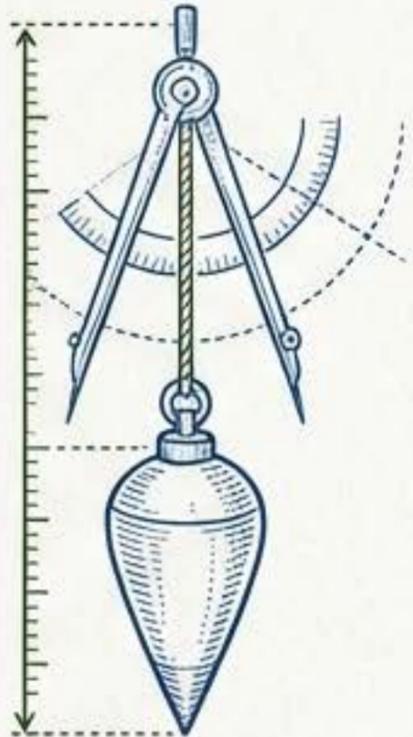
The Spirit empowers us to bring calm and Christlike love even into tense relationships.



# Goodness (*Agathōsynē*) chooses honesty over advantage.

## Etymology: *Agathōsynē* Terracotta Clay Inter

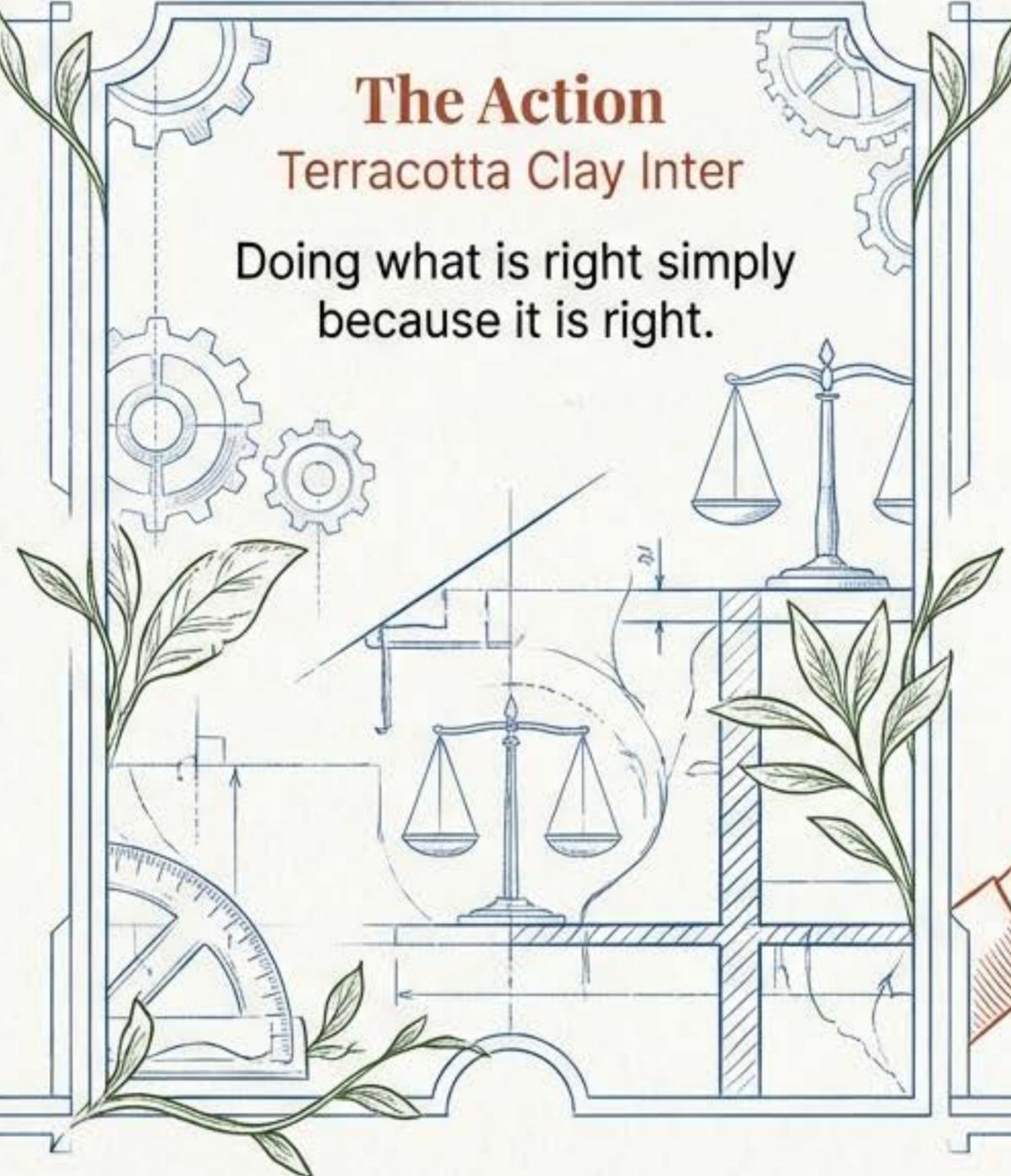
Moral excellence, uprightness, generosity. A heart that desires what is right.



## The Action

Terracotta Clay Inter

Doing what is right simply because it is right.



## Real-World Application

Terracotta Clay Inter

**The Billing Error:** You discover a financial error in your favor. Goodness compels you to correct it, even when no one else would ever know.

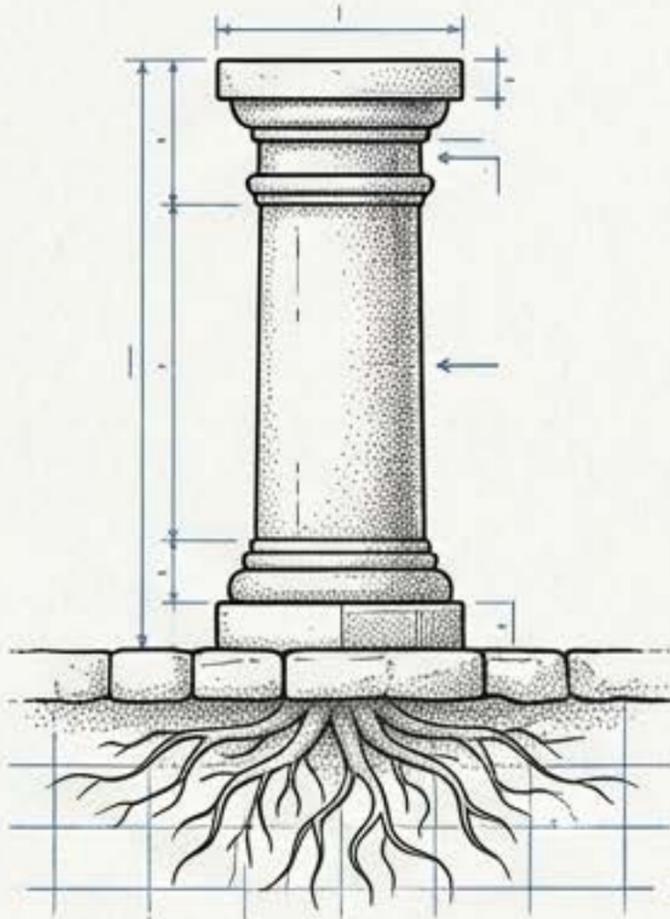


# Faithfulness (*Pistis*) is steady obedience over time.

## Etymology: *Pistis*

### Terracotta Clay Playfair Display

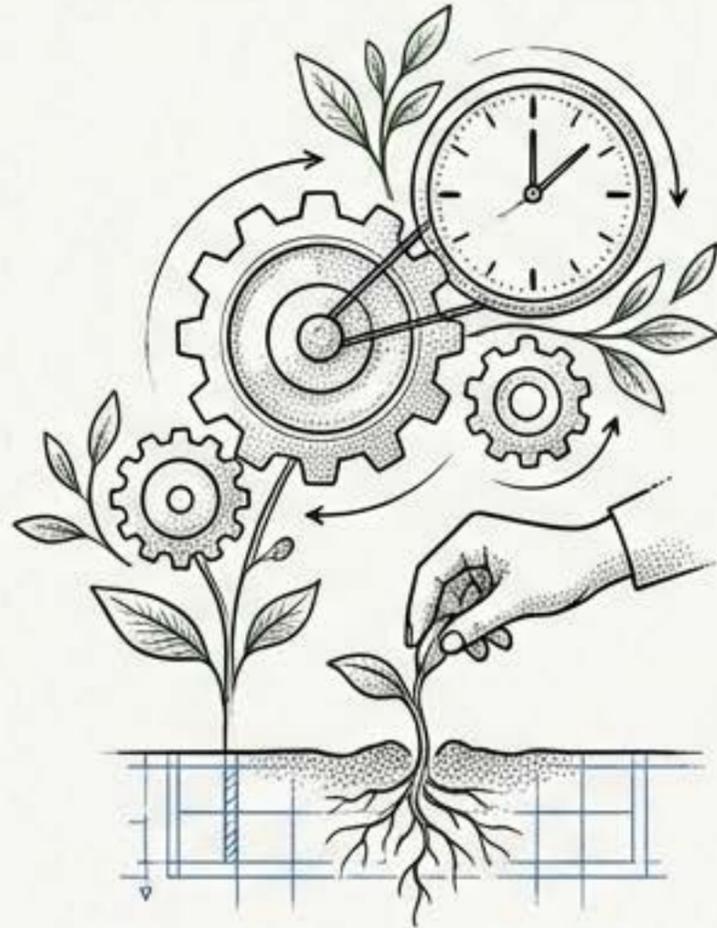
Reliability, trustworthiness, dependability.



## The Action

### Terracotta Clay Playfair Display

Being someone others can count on. Stewards found faithful (1 Cor 4:2).



## Real-World Application

### Terracotta Clay Playfair Display

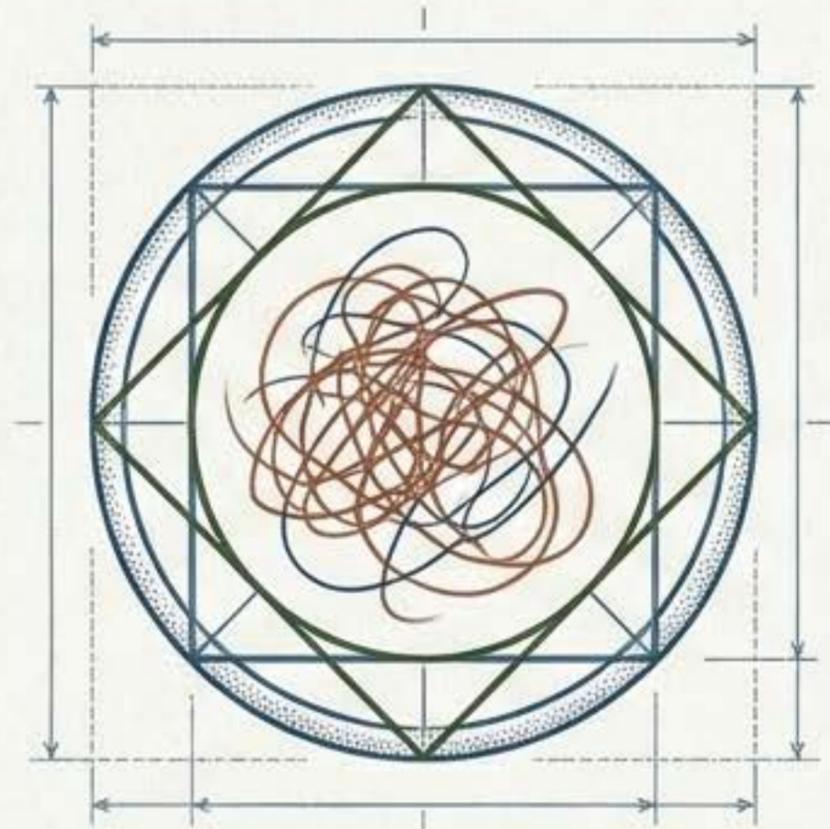
The Long Haul: Continuing to serve, give, and pray when the enthusiasm fades, the project gets hard, and the applause stops.



# Self-Control (*Enkrateia*) is Spirit-powered mastery.

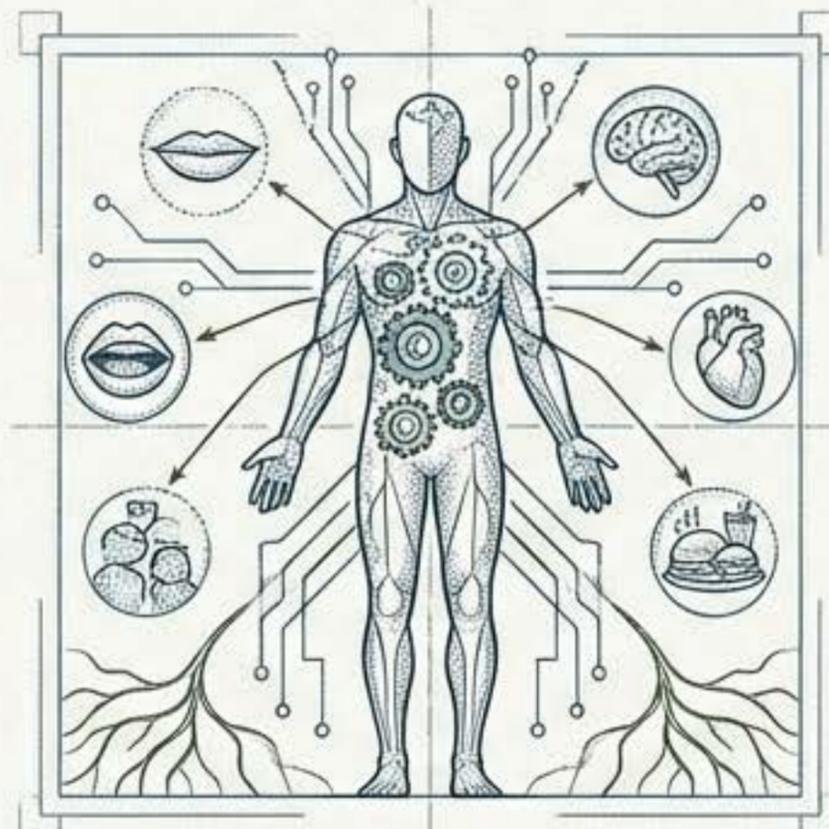
## Etymology: *Enkrateia* Terracotta Clay Playfair Display

Power over oneself  
(from en + kratos).



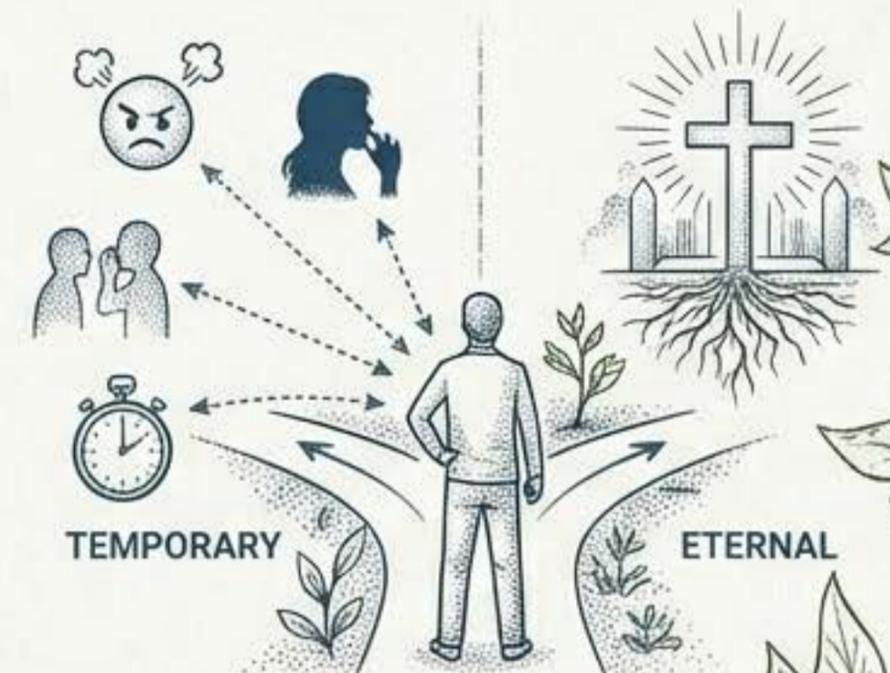
## The Action Terracotta Clay Playfair Display

Inner strength that governs  
desires, impulses, and habits.

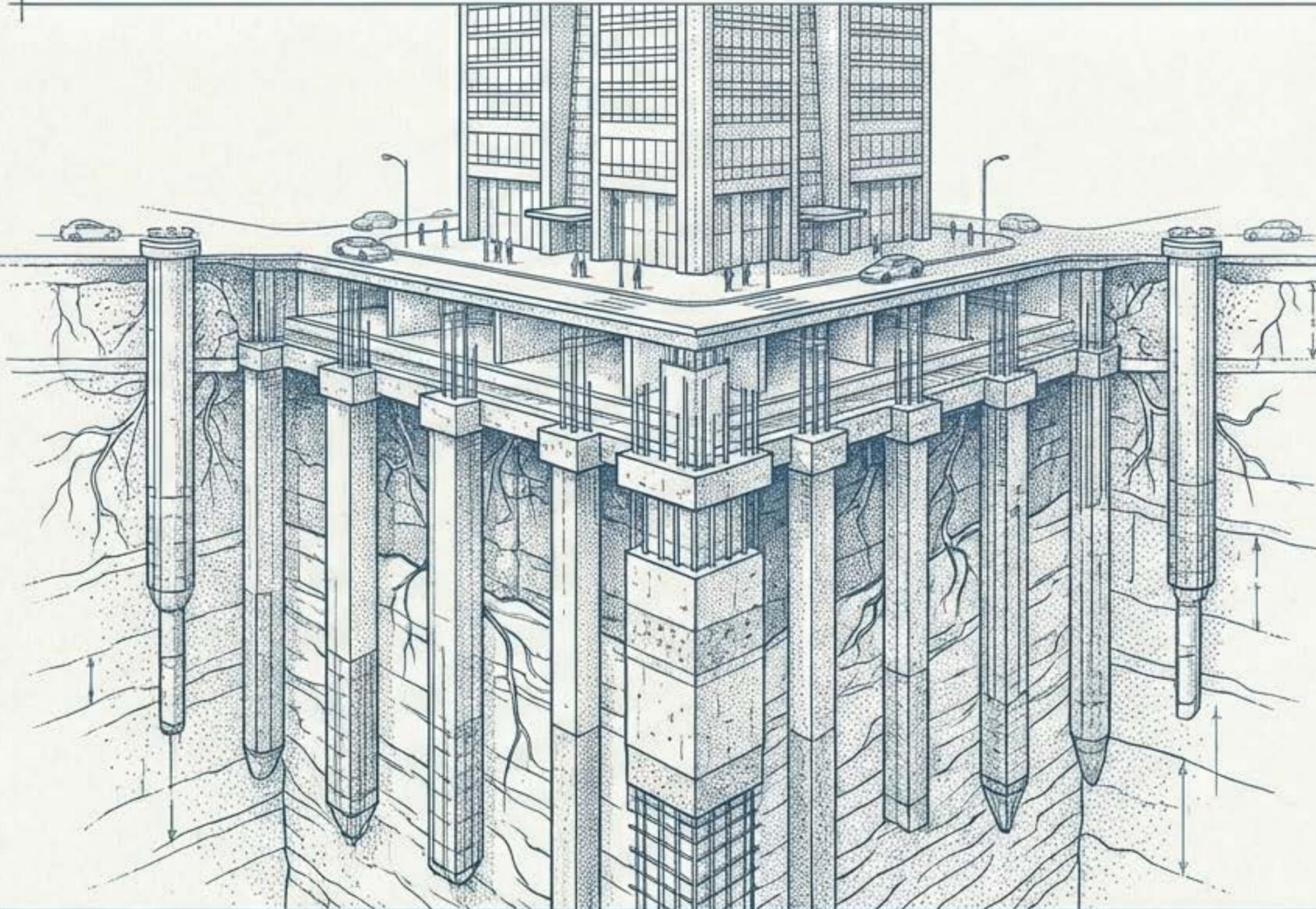


## Real-World Application Terracotta Clay Playfair Display

**Resisting the Immediate:** Saying  
no to anger, lust, gossip, overeating,  
or procrastination by relying on the  
Spirit's power to choose the eternal  
over the temporary.



# A skyscraper's strength is hidden underground.



**Character** is the hidden foundation of a Christian life.

**If the foundation is strong, the structure stands.**

**If character collapses, everything built above it eventually falls.**

# The goal is Incarnation, not just Imitation.

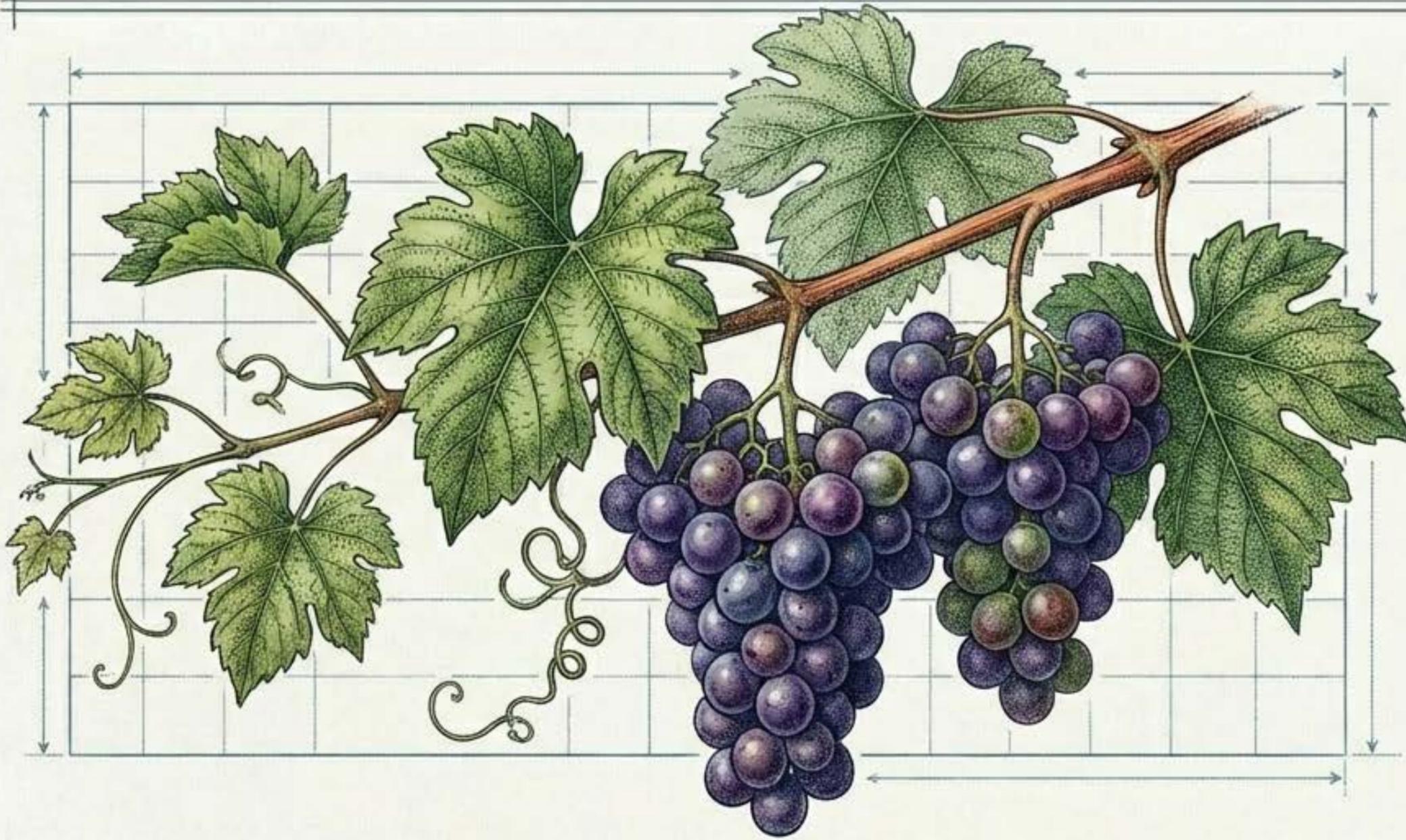
The Spirit's work is to make us look like the Son.

Patience	Endured	clueless disciples.
Kindness	Welcomed	children and lepers.
Gentleness	Described	Himself as " <b>Lowly in heart</b> ".
Self-Control	Resisted	temptation in the desert.
Faithfulness	Finished	the Father's work on the cross.

The Spirit's fruit is Christ living His life in and through us.

— Warren Wiersbe

# You don't force fruit. You abide.



1. Relationships are shaped by **Grace**.

2. Reputation is shaped by **Integrity**.

3. Resemblance is shaped by **Christ**.

Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit. — John 15:5