

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Galatians 5:22-23

Lesson 11

These verses continue the exhortation of Paul to the Galatians, not to make their liberty from the law a base of operations from which to serve the flesh, but rather to live their Christian lives motivated by divine love. As the repulsiveness of the works of the flesh should deter us from yielding to the flesh, so the attractiveness of the fruit of the Spirit should influence us to yield to the Spirit. May you be inspired to live in the Spirit in such a way that your life reflects these God glorifying attributes and actions.

DAY ONE: Read Galatians 5:22-23

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheets and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
 - a. Galatians 5:22-23 is part of the paragraph division that ends with verse 26. List below the subjects covered in verses 22-23.
2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in previous lesson: *Spirit, law, and love*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Galatians 5:22-23.
3. Underline or highlight the *fruit of the Spirit*.
4. Paul used the contrasting term *but* in verse 22. Record what is being contrasted.

DAY TWO: Read Galatians 5:22a

1. To *walk in the Spirit* (Galatians 5:16) should be a deep desire of every believer. The result or *fruit of walking in the Spirit* can be seen in Galatians 5:22,23. Before we look at the *fruit*, let's look at the Source of this *fruit*. Who is the source of this *fruit*?
 - a. What does Romans 8:5 teach that helps us to understand what it means to *walk in the Spirit*?
 - 1.) Can a believer *walk in the flesh* and *walk in the Spirit* at the same time?
 - a.) Why or why not?
2. In what has been called the Upper Room Discourse, Jesus spoke to His disciples about *fruit*. Read John 15:1-11 and answer the following questions.
 - a. Jesus is the *vine*, we are the *branches*. What relationship does the *branch* have with the *vine*?
 - b. Use either a dictionary or synonyms to define the word *abide*.
 - 1.) What are some words that are opposite of *abide*?
 - c. What is the result of not *abiding*?
 - d. What is the result of *abiding*?
 - e. What did Jesus say was His purpose of speaking *these things*? see verse 11
 - 1.) What *joys* have you discovered in *abiding* in Jesus?

DAYS THREE and FOUR: Read Galatians 5:22,23

1. Galatians 5:19, 20 lists *works of the flesh*. Galatians 5:22,23 lists *fruit of the Spirit*. What is the difference between *works* and *fruit*?
2. There are nine results of *walking in the Spirit* listed in these two verses. Using the scriptural references provided, record what is taught about each word.

love: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

joy: James 1:2, 1 John 1:4

peace: John 16:33

longsuffering: Colossians 1:11

kindness: Ephesians 2:4-7

goodness: Romans 15:14

faithfulness: Luke 17:6

gentleness: Titus 3:2

self-control (temperate): 1 Corinthians 9:25

3. Review the *fruit of the Spirit*. What thoughts were provoked as you read the verses in #2?
4. Why is it important to understand that these attributes are a result of abiding, rather than of works or our efforts?
 - a. The word *love* in Galatians 5:22 is agape love, God's unconditional kind of *love*. According to Romans 5:5, how are we enabled to *love* others with this kind of *love*?
 - 1.) In what ways have you personally experienced this?
5. Agape love is not the only trait mentioned in these verses that is a divine attribute. Each *fruit of the Spirit* reflects the nature of God, certainly not the nature of man. Considering these traits are often responses to mistreatment or trials, how have you been challenged?
6. We can't produce this *fruit of the Spirit*, but we can stop its production. What might hinder the growth of any of these traits in a believer's life?

DAY FIVE: Read Galatians 5:23b

1. Paul wrote this letter to the Galatians to stress the importance of grace over the law, the Spirit over the flesh. Record the last sentence of verse 23.
2. Read 1 Timothy 1:9. Who was the *law* made for?
 - a. Why do you think the *unrighteous* need laws?
3. What does Galatians 5:14 reveal about love?
 - a. Explain this truth as you would to someone caught up and bound to each individual law.
 - 1.) Why does walking in the *fruit of the Spirit* negate the necessity to look to the law to regulate one's behavior?
4. Why would looking wholly at the law to determine one's behavior tend to take the focus off of *loving* others or any of the other *fruit of the Spirit*?

DAY SIX: Review Galatians 5:22,23

1. Record something you learned about the *fruit of the Spirit* through contrasting it to the *works of the flesh*.

2. Keeping in mind what you have studied about the *fruit of the Spirit* in this lesson, write a definition of *love*.
 - a. How can a person cultivate the character qualities of the Holy Spirit in his or her life?

3. How do you see the character of the Holy Spirit growing in your life?

4. Share a way this lesson has:
 - a. challenged you

 - b. encouraged you

*that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him,
being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- Colossians 1:10*