

Fruit of the Spirit



454) What is the fruit of the Spirit?

- A. The fruit of the Spirit are nine virtues that should be found in a Christian's life.
- B. The fruit of the Spirit are:
 - 1. Love
 - 2. Joy
 - 3. Peace
 - 4. Patience
 - 5. Kindness
 - 6. Goodness
 - 7. Faithfulness
 - 8. Gentleness
 - 9. Self-control
- C. The fruit of the Spirit is unlike the gifts of the Spirit. The gifts can't be earned. They are given freely without regard to our works. The fruit of the Spirit is directly related to our walk with God. Our fruit grows as a result of our maturing relationship with God and our fellow man.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

GAL 5:22-23 NIV

455) What is the source of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives?

- A. God is the source of the fruit in our life. Without the presence of His energizing Holy Spirit, we could bear no godly fruit on our own.

"Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. [5] "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7] If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8] This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit,

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showing yourselves to be my disciples."

JOHN 15:4-8 NIV

"And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

ROM 5:5 NIV

456) What does the fruit of the Spirit reveal about God in us?

- A. The fruit of the Spirit in our lives is an evidence of God's nature and character being developed in us.
- B. God is very interested in seeing godly character formed in us.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things."

PHIL 4:8 NIV

"My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you."

GAL 4:19 NIV

457) What is character?

- A. English word "character" denotes those moral and ethical traits, personal strengths and weaknesses, that distinguish one person from another.
- B. It has been said that your "character" is revealed by how you behave when you think no one is watching. Many people put on their best behavior when they go to church, but they are quite another person at home or on the job. God knows your true character and is not fooled by any false front.
- C. Godly character must be guarded. Satan is eager to use many evil influences, anything from people to TV, to undermine your character.

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. [13] Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. [14] And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. [15] Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

COL 3:12-15 NIV

"Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

1COR 15:33 NIV

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

1TIM 6:10 NIV

458) How can we encourage the growth of godly fruit in our lives?

- A. If you feed your spirit man, the fruit of the spirit will grow. If you feed your flesh, the old sinful nature, the corrupt fruit of the flesh will grow.

- B. You can feed your spirit man by spending time with God in prayer, Bible study, and meditation on the things of God.

"So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. [17] For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. [19] The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; [20] idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions [21] and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. [22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

GAL 5:16-23 NIV

"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. [8] The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

GAL 6:7-8 NIV

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer."

PSA 19:14 NIV

"Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. [98] Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me. [99] I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. [100] I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts. [101] I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word. [102] I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me. [103] How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! [104] I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path. [105] Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

PSA 119:97-105 NIV

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things."

PHIL 4:8 NIV

459) What is love?

- A. The best definition of Christian love is found in the reading of the love Chapter, I Corinthians 13. It is the selfless giving of yourself to God and your fellow man.
- B. Love is the chief Christian virtue. Without love, every other Christian virtue is worthless. Love is the summation of the law. Our love for others serves to identify us as belonging to God. Love is to control our behavior toward God, our neighbor and even our enemies.

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"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. [2] If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. [3] If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. [4] Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. [5] It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. [6] Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. [7] It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. [8] Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. [9] For we know in part and we prophesy in part, [10] but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. [11] When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. [12] Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. [13] And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

1COR 13 NIV

"The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

GAL 5:14 NIV

"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

COL 3:14 NIV

"Do everything in love."

1COR 16:14 NIV

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

JOHN 13:35 NIV

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

1PETER 4:8 NIV

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, [28] bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. [29] If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. [30] Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. [31] Do to others as you would have them do to you. [32] "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. [33] And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. [34] And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. [35] But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked."

LUKE 6:27-35 NIV

460) What is joy?

- A. The word "joy" means "delight." It refers both to the inward emotion as well as its outward expression.
- B. When God lifts the heavy load of sin off of us at salvation, joy floods our soul. That joy is a direct result of His presence in our life. Unlike happiness, joy is not dependent on pleasant circumstances. Joy is born out of our relationship with God and can't be easily shaken. Sin can ruin our joy because sin grieves the Holy Spirit, the source of our joy.
- C. When you see a Christian that is depressed or once again carrying the cares of the world on their shoulders, you can be sure they have lost their focus. They have forgotten that God is bigger than any problem they might face.

"If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. [11] I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

JOHN 15:10-11 NIV

"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

ROM 14:17 NIV

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

ROM 15:13 NIV

"Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity."

2COR 8:2 NIV

"Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

NEH 8:10 NIV

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, [3] because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance."

JAMES 1:2-3 NIV

"Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."

PSA 51:12 NIV

461) What is peace?

- A. Peace is a state of calm, rest and tranquility which is a result of God's presence in our life.
- B. When we are born again, we are no longer separated from God. The strife and enmity that was once present is gone and is replaced with peace. We can rest quietly because the God of peace lives in our heart.
- C. The presence of peace in our heart becomes a major tool of God to guide us. If God is pleased with our direction, His peace is present. When we start to stray, we feel a disturbing agitation in our spirit man. That is God's warning bell. By following God's peace, we will be fulfilling His purpose in our life.

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- D. As Christians, it is our responsibility to bring His peace into every situation we find ourselves in.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

JOHN 14:27 NIV

"For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,"

EPH 2:14 NIV

"The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace,"

ROM 8:6 NIV

"For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. [11] He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. [12] For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

1PETER 3:10-12 NIV

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

COL 3:15 NIV

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

PHIL 4:7 NIV

"Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."

HEB 12:14 NIV

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

ROM 12:18 NIV

"Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

ROM 14:19 NIV

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

EPH 4:3 NIV

462) What is patience?

- A. Patience is the ability to endure pain, difficulty, aggravation, or annoyance, while keeping a proper attitude of calmness, tolerance, and understanding. It is the ability to calmly wait for God's timing without becoming hasty or impulsive.
- B. In the King James Version of the Bible, this word is translated "longsuffering."

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- C. God often works differently than we would. People and circumstances can change slowly. Patience is that virtue that admits that God's way is best and worth waiting for.

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

COL 3:12 NIV

"Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the worst. [16] But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life."

1TIM 1:15-16 NIV

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. [9] "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

ISA 55:8-9 NIV

"Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes."

PSA 37:7 NIV

"We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised."

HEB 6:12 NIV

"But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently."

ROM 8:25 NIV

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."

EPH 4:2 NIV

"Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. [8] You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near."

JAMES 5:7-8 NIV

463) What is kindness?

- A. Kindness is showing warm generosity to others. It is being agreeable, understanding, considerate, and tolerant of people even if your kindness is not returned.
- B. In the King James Version of the Bible, this word is translated "gentleness."
- C. Kindness is an expression of love towards others which springs from God's love in our heart.

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

EPH 4:32 NIV

we do not give up."

GAL 6:9 NIV

"Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever."

PSA 37:27 NIV

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good."

ROM 12:9 NIV

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

ROM 12:21 NIV

465) What is faithfulness?

- A. A person who is "faithful" is trustworthy and dependable. You are able to rely on them. They are devoted and not swayed by every wind that blows. Faithfulness is that quality of loyalty, consistency and steadfastness that flows from God's nature into our hearts.
- B. As our faith in God grows, so will the quality of faithfulness.

"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."

1COR 4:2 NIV

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"

MATT 25:23 NIV

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

LUKE 16:10 NIV

"Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life."

REV 2:10 NIV

466) What is gentleness?

- A. A gentle person is a humble person. They possess a quiet, tender strength that does not need to be flaunted. They are considerate of others, able to accomplish God's will without being harsh or severe.
- B. In the King James Version of the Bible, this word is translated "meekness."
- C. A gentle person has a teachable spirit. Someone with an unteachable spirit acts like they know everything, and are unwilling to be taught.

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."

EPH 4:2 NIV

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

COL 3:12 NIV

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"But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness."

1TIM 6:11 NIV

"By the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you - I, Paul, who am "timid" when face to face with you, but "bold" when away!"

2COR 10:1 NIV

"Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted."

GAL 6:1 NIV

467) What is self-control?

- A. Self-control is the strength of character that maintains righteousness, while resisting ungodliness.
- B. In the King James Version of the Bible, this word is translated "temperance."
- C. Self-control is controlling your passions, anger, pride, fear, doubt, or anything else that would get in the way of God shining through your life.

"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; [6] and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; [7] and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love."

2PETER 1:5-7 NIV

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. [12] It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age."

TITUS 2:11-12 NIV

"Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. [2] As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. [3] For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do - living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. [4] They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you."

1PETER 4:1-4 NIV

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. [25] Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. [26] Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. [27] No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize."

1COR 9:24-27 NIV

Name: _____ Group Leaders: _____

Date: _____

Homework for Chapter 30

Please answer the following questions from the textbook in full sentences and return to your Group Leaders next week.

- 1) What is character? Why is it so important?

- 2) List five of the nine gifts of the spirit.

- 3) Explain each of the chosen five gifts in your own words.
