

# The Life-Style of the Spirit

## Lesson #4

### THE LIFE-STYLE OF THE SPIRIT - Part II - CHRIST-LIKENESS

Scripture: Gal. 5:22,23

Introduction: Dead leaves don't fall off trees. They are pushed off by the new life surging through the branches. Verse 22 pictures the Spirit as a tree planted within every believer. The dead leaves are the works of the flesh in vv 19-21. You don't get rid of the dead leaves by plucking them off, but by allowing the life of the Spirit to flow through us. As the Walk in the Spirit (v. 16) produces the new fruit, the dead leaves of the flesh are pushed out of the life.

- Don't concentrate on getting rid of the dead leaves but on walking in the Spirit!

#### I. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PRODUCED BY THE SPIRIT

1. Works are produced by man's power - vs. 19-21  
Fruit is produced by a power man doesn't possess.
2. Remember the basic precept? *Total inability to do anything for self*
3. The issue isn't, "Will I love this person?" or "Can I be longsuffering?" but, "Will I let the Holy Spirit fill me?"

#### II. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PROOF WE ARE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

1. Satan can counterfeit the gifts but not the proof.
2. You may be a great soul-winner, may possess the gifts of evangelism, but if you are not gentle, loving, longsuffering, and meek, you are not spiritual!

#### III. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT PROGRESSES IN THE SPIRIT

1. Note how it progresses from within to without. First it produces in you love, joy and peace - then reaches out to others in longsuffering, gentleness, etc.
2. Actually this is a unity. Paul isn't describing nine different kinds of fruit, but one fruit with nine clusters. Note fruit is singular, not plural. Some say, "I love people but just can't be gentle." But the Spirit doesn't produce His fruit in part, only in whole. If any of these characteristics are missing from your life, the Spirit is not yet filling and controlling you.

3.

3. Write the definition for each characteristic:

- (1) Love *agape* = unconquerable good will - see Matt 5 = vain or just & unjust. - seeks only highest good =
- (2) Joy - 1 John 1:3; John 16:22 joy full
- (3) Peace = a gift = all things right - relationship = perfection of relationship; negative + positive
- (4) Longsuffering - a conquering patience in regard to people rather than things or events - a man could revenge himself but doesn't = use of D's attitude toward man
- (5) Gentleness = kindness - sweetness, sweet reasonableness
- (6) Goodness = firmness which is firm = in all points = goodness in face of opposition = rebukes + reproves
- (7) Faith = trustworthiness, reliable
- (8) Meekness = submissiveness to will of G; teachable; considerate as animal domesticated.
- (9) Temperance = self-mastery, self-control = use of athletic discipline  
1 Cor 9:25