

The Holy Spirit & Spirituality

Lesson #7 The Holy Spirit and the Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22, 23 (NASB) *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

The "Tree of 40 Fruit"

The word fruit is found 208 times from cover to cover in the bible.

The Condition of Fruitfulness

John 15:1–11 (NKJV) *"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. ⁹ "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹ "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. **Is our effort to produce or abide?***

Largest and oldest grapevine in the world In Hampton Court near London, there is a grapevine under a greenhouse; it is about 250 years old and has but one root, which is at least four feet thick. Some of the branches are 150 feet long. Because of skillful cutting and pruning, the vine produces as much as 800 lbs. of grapes in a year. Even though some of the smaller branches are 150 feet from the main stem, they bear much fruit because they are joined to the vine and allow the life of the vine to flow through them. He is the vine, and we are the branches. And when we need pruning, the goal is always more fruit.

***Galatians 5:16–17** (NKJV) *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.

Matthew 7:16–20 (NKJV) *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.*

Tree of Death According to Guinness World Records, the manchineel [man-kin-neil] tree is the most dangerous tree in the world.

2 Timothy 3:5 (NKJV) *having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*

Matthew 21:19,20 *And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away. And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?" **My Pomelo Trees***

Luke 13:6-9 *He also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. "Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?' "But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. 'And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.'"*

The Fruit of Love

Galatians 5:22,23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

Ephesians 5:9 *(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),*

When a 4-year-old boy was dressing himself for preschool one morning, he chose to wear a pair of underpants with a Fruit of the Loom label inside. "Mommy," he explained to me, "I want to wear these because they have the fruit of the spirit in them!"

- The fruit of the Spirit grows only in the garden of obedience.

1 Corinthians 13:13 (NKJV) *And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

***John 13:35 (NKJV)** *“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

Romans 5:8 (NKJV) *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

1 John 4:7–8 (NKJV) *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love**.*

Romans 13:10 (NKJV) *Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.*

Joy, Peace, and Patience

Joy = a. Intense and especially ecstatic or exultant happiness.

b. The expression or manifestation of such feeling.

Rejoice = To feel joyful; be delighted:

- Happiness is a feeling. Joy is an attitude.

Romans 14:17 (NKJV) *for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

John 14:27 (NKJV) *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

- Joy is peace dancing and peace is joy at rest. - F. B. Meyer

***Romans 5:1 (NKJV)** *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

Romans 12:18 (NKJV) *If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.*

Philippians 4:9 *The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.*

Revelation 14:12 (NKJV) *Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.*

Kindness, Goodness, and Faithfulness

1 Corinthians 13:4 (NKJV) *Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;*

Kindness = Of a friendly, generous, or warm-hearted nature.

Showing sympathy or understanding; charitable: *a kind word.*

Humane; considerate: Forbearing; tolerant:

Generous; liberal: *kind words of praise .*

Ephesians 4:32 (NKJV) *And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*

Romans 12:10 ***Be kindly** affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;*

Goodness

Exodus 33:19 *Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."*

Exodus 34:6 *And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and **abundant in goodness** and truth,*

Lamentations 3:22–23 (NKJV) *Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.*

Revelation 2:10 (NKJV) *... **Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.***

***Matthew 25:23 (NKJV)** *His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'*

Gentleness and Self-Control

- A young girl was asked to recite the fruits of the Spirit. "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and **remote control**," was her reply.

Matthew 5:5 ***Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.***

Numbers 12:3 (NKJV) *(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)*

Proverbs 16:32 (NKJV) *He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.*

Ezekiel 47:12 *"Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."*

No fruit without Jesus

John 15:5 *"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*

The Tree Of Death - Hidden among the tropical beaches in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean you can find a harmless looking tree with a sweet smelling fruit that looks like crabapples. But this is one apple in paradise you do not want to eat. In fact, even a single bite of the luscious looking fruit can cause hours of agony — and potentially death. According to the Guinness World Records, the manchineel

[man-kin-neil] tree is in fact the most dangerous tree in the world. When eaten, the fruit is reported to be pleasantly sweet at first, with a subsequent strange peppery feeling. Gradually this progresses to a burning sensation and tightness in the throat followed by terrible gastronomical problems. Symptoms continue to worsen until the patient can barely swallow solid food because of the excruciating pain and swelling in the throat. In fact, every part of the tree is toxic. Manchineel trees are so poisonous that even standing under one in the rain can cause your skin to blister and the smoke from burning any part of the tree can seriously injure the eyes. Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León died after being struck by an arrow that had been poisoned with manchineel sap. We can understand why Columbus called them "Death apples" and the Spanish call it, *arbol de la muerte*, which literally means "tree of death".

Matthew 21:33-41 *"Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons."*

Sins of omission, not a bad tree just fruitless.

James 4:17 *Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.*

Isaiah 5:1-7 *Now let me sing to my Well-beloved A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard: My Well-beloved has a vineyard On a very fruitful hill. He dug it up and cleared out its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. He built a tower in its midst, And also made a winepress in it; So He expected it to bring forth good grapes, But it*

brought forth wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge, please, between Me and My vineyard. What more could have been done to My vineyard That I have not done in it? Why then, when I expected it to bring forth good grapes, Did it bring forth wild grapes? And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned; And break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will lay it waste; It shall not be pruned or dug, But there shall come up briars and thorns. I will also command the clouds That they rain no rain on it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, And the men of Judah are His pleasant plant. He looked for justice, but behold, oppression; For righteousness, but behold, a cry for help.

(CNN) August 3, 2015

The first time Sam Van Aken saw tree branches being grafted and grown onto other trees, he likened it to Frankenstein. Yet, when the process became a full-time fascination, the Syracuse University art professor did not seek to create a monster but a piece of art. The "Tree of 40 Fruit" is Van Aken's creation, a single tree that can produce 40 different stone fruits, or fruit with pits, including peaches, apricots, plums, cherries and nectarines. "I look at the Tree of 40 Fruit as an artwork, a research project and a form of conservation," Van Aken said in a 2014 TEDxManhattan talk. He uses chip grafting to create the trees, which involves cutting the buds off a fruit tree and having them heal to the lateral branches of a rootstock tree. Branches from the different fruit trees grow off of the rootstock, which is typically a tree variety natural to the area's climate and soil. This allows fruit to be grown in areas that might not otherwise support that type of tree. Van Aken has planted 16 trees in seven states across the country.

Tomatoes - In 1820 a crowd of curious, people gathered around the county courthouse in Salem, New Jersey. The county fair was in progress, and they jostled one another in eager anticipation, for they were about to witness a daring feat.

Soon a man appeared on the steps, holding in one hand a piece of poisonous fruit that had been part of the fair's decorations. As he held it up for them to see, members of the crowd whispered excitedly to one another. "Is he really going to eat it?" some asked, in disbelief.

The man was Colonel Robert Gibbon Johnson; and the fruit was-a tomato, called in those days a love apple and considered deadly poison. Returning Spanish conquistadors brought the first tomato seeds from Peru to Italy. Upon arrival, the Italians believed the heart-shaped tomato was an aphrodisiac, thus tomato in Italian, poma amoris, means "love apple." Love apples were tokens of courtship or lawn decorations. Young men gave them to their girlfriends, who would afterward wear the seeds in sachets around their necks. The fruit was admired for its beauty, but because of its relation to deadly nightshade the tomato was regarded as poison by Americans and, no one - repeat, no one - would dream of eating it.

The crowd gasped in horror as the colonel Johnson deliberately placed the tomato in his mouth, and ate it with apparent relish. They waited breathlessly, expecting soon to see him collapse writhing in dying agony, on the courthouse steps.

But nothing happened. Instead - praising the color and texture, he ate a second tomato, explaining, that tomatoes were delicious either cooked or raw. He Then he invited the onlookers to join him in his meal, and a few of the braver ones went forward. Soon they too were relishing the tomatoes flavor.

The news rapidly spread, and eventually tomatoes became a widely accepted article of diet providing a primary source of minerals and vitamins A and C. Today United States grows about 9 million metric tons of tomatoes yearly and there are more varieties of tomatoes sold than of any other fruit.

Psalm 34:8 *Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!*

1 Corinthians 13:13 *And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

Viticulture The cultivation of grapes. Vineyards were grown in the hills, plains and valleys and considered so important that a man who had planted one was exempt from military service (Deut. 20:6).

Not abiding is fatal

John 15:6 *"If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned."*

Part of Abiding is His Word in Us.

John 15:7, 8 *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."*

Bananas – are a fruity miracle. They are colorful, nutritious, not to mention the amusing shape is easy to hold, peel and eat. Bananas also contain three natural sugars - sucrose, fructose and glucose combined with a healthy dose of fiber. When a hungry person eats a banana they receive an almost instant and sustained boost of vigor. Research has proven that just two bananas provide enough energy for a strenuous 90-minute workout. This is why bananas are the favorite fruit of Olympic athletes. In fact compared to an apple, a banana has four times the protein, twice the carbohydrate, three times the phosphorus, five times the vitamin A and iron, and twice the other minerals. It is also rich in potassium and is one of most affordable fruits around. So maybe it's time to change that well-known proverb to, "A banana a day keeps the doctor away!" Studies have shown that bananas can also help overcome or prevent a substantial array of illnesses and conditions ranging from depression, heartburn and anemia, to stroke and morning sickness. Around the world different parts of the banana plant are used for clothing, paper and tableware, and the skin of the banana is used to heal everything from insect bites to warts. Indeed, the banana appears almost perfectly designed for human consumption and distribution. It is difficult to conceive of a more practical blueprint for the ideal fruit. But have you noticed the banana has no seeds. Amazingly the banana is a mutant, it is the result of the cross pollination of two almost inedible Asian fruits. The banana, is a freakish genetic amalgamation; one that has survived through the centuries due to the sustained intervention of diligent humans. These fragile fruits can only be cloned from suckering shoots and cuttings taken from the underground stem of existing plants. Over time, Arab traders carried the new wonder-fruit to Africa, and Spanish conquistadors brought them to the Americas. So if you have ever pictured Adam and Eve savoring bananas in the garden of Eden you better think again. Bananas only happen through man participating with God's creation. This is also true regarding the fruit of the Spirit.

John 15:4, 5 *Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

The coconut tree is sometimes called the tree of life because of its amazing versatility. My father, who was a World War II pilot, says that when planes went down in the Pacific Islands, the stranded pilots sometimes survived for many months on little more than coconuts. People use coconuts for food, milk, butter, clothing, baskets, oil, wax, and even soap. The shell can be used to make a bowl and other utensils and its husks as fuel for a fire.