

Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

How are we able to not carry out the desire of the flesh?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

How do we often try to “produce” this fruit in our lives?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

We tend to see a middle ground between walking by the flesh and walking by the Spirit. How does this passage correct that?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

What does it mean to be lead by the Spirit?

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Psalm 19:1-6

Song #23 ~ Creation Sings

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Genesis 29:1-35

Song #94 ~ Still, My Soul Be Still

Scripture Reading: Genesis 30:1-43

Prayer

Sermon ~ Galatians 5:22-23

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #230 ~ Before the Throne of God Above

Galatians 5:16

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the
desire of the flesh

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Text: Galatians 5:22-23

Theme: Justification and sanctification are by faith apart from the works of the Law (Gal. 3:3).

Introduction: When Benjamin Franklin was 20, he laid out a list of 13 virtues to live by. Each week, he would strive to keep 1 virtue in the hopes of being able to master all 13. But instead of mastering them, all he did was mitigate his fleshly desires. Apart from the work of the Holy Spirit, we are incapable of producing genuine fruit.

- I. The Holy Spirit produces fruit in the life of the believer (22-23).
 - A. Is your life marked by the deeds of the flesh or the fruit that the Spirit produces (22-23)?

Explanation: The Spirit produces fruit, not fruits. Each virtue is connected to the others. When someone is loving, they are also kind and patient.

Explanation: Just like the deeds of the flesh are evident, so the work of the Holy Spirit is also obvious. Paul is not giving us a list so that we can determine if an attribute comes from the Spirit or from the flesh. It should be obvious to all.

 1. The Spirit produces love (22).

Explanation: Christ said that you will know my disciples because they have love for one another (John 13:35). But what is love? Love seeks the benefit of others (1 Cor. 13:5).
 2. The Spirit produces joy (22).

Explanation: Joy is an inner delight regardless of circumstances. While Paul was in prison he was able to be filled with joy (Phil. 1:25, 3:1).
 3. The Spirit produces peace (22).

Explanation: Peace is the absence of anxiety (Phil. 4:6-7).

4. The Spirit produces patience (22).

Explanation: Patience is waiting on God. When David was surrounded by his enemies he reminded himself to take courage and wait for the Lord (Ps. 27:11-14). In contrast, when Saul was afraid that everyone would leave, he made a sacrifice to God instead of waiting for the prophet (1 Sam. 13:8-13).

5. The Spirit produces kindness (22).

Explanation: Kindness is giving undeserved favor to someone. The good Samaritan is perhaps the most well-known story on kindness (Luke 10:29-37).

6. The Spirit produces goodness (22).

Explanation: Goodness refers to doing what's right. Apart from the Spirit, we often only do what's right when others will see us.

7. The Spirit produces faithfulness (22).

Explanation: Faithfulness is being dependable, even when it's not convenient.

8. The Spirit produces gentleness (23).

Explanation: Gentleness becomes most evident when someone wrongs you. Moses was being accused by Aaron and Miriam. Yet, Moses responded graciously (Num. 12:1-3).

9. The Spirit produces self-control (23).

Explanation: Self-control is not losing control of our emotions in the midst of a difficult circumstance. When Christ cleared the temple with a whip (John 2:15-17) it was not out of rage. Instead, Christ was acting with righteous zeal for His Father's house.

Application: As parents, we need to ask for the Spirit's help when we discipline our children. We can easily discipline out of frustration instead of being led by the Spirit.

Conclusion: You could set up laws for yourself, like Benjamin Franklin, to live a virtuous life. But apart from the Holy Spirit, you will only frustrate yourself.