

Fruit of the Spirit
Introduction
Facilitator: Elder Virginia Whittington

Galatians 5:16-21

Week One: Introduction and JOY

Start with a little TRIVIA!

(1) How many Fruit of the Spirit are there? (2) How many works of the flesh are there?

Fruit of the Spirit v. Works of the Flesh		
9 Fruit of the Spirit	At least 17 Works of the Flesh	
Love	<i>Adultery</i>	<i>Wrath</i>
Joy	<i>Fornication</i>	<i>Strife</i>
Peace	<i>Uncleanness</i>	<i>Seditious</i>
Longsuffering	<i>Lasciviousness</i>	<i>Heresies</i>
Gentleness	<i>Idolatry</i>	<i>Envyings</i>
Goodness	<i>Witchcraft</i>	<i>Murders</i>
Faith	<i>Hatred</i>	<i>Drunkenness</i>
Meekness	<i>Variance</i>	<i>Revellings</i>
Temperance	<i>Emulations</i>	<i>AND SUCH LIKE...</i>

“We all have more than one side to us...” Bishop Allen T.D. Wiggins

Read

[This] I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. (Gal 5:16 KJV)

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. (Gal 5:17 KJV)

But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. (Gal 5:18 KJV)

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, (Gal 5:19 KJV)

Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditious, heresies, (Gal 5:20 KJV)

Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (Gal 5:21 KJV)

“and such the like...” I COULD GO ON! (5:17 MSG)

Verse 17 again...

For the **flesh** lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. Gal. 5:17

We are **BORN** with the **NATURAL** inclination or propensity to be **GOVERNED** or **RULED** by the works of the flesh

 B **U** **T**

We are **REBORN (BORN AGAIN)** with the **GIFT** of God that **MAKES US FREE** from their rule and **ENDUES US WITH POWER** to bring our flesh under **SUBJECTION!**

What this means is that even after you're saved, **you're still going to struggle!** **BUT**...it also means that you have the **POWER** to overcome the struggles!

I'VE GOT THE POWER!

Fruit of the Spirit

PART 1: JOY

Facilitator: Lady Deborah Wiggins

Galatians 5:22 KJV

[22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Galatians 5:22 AMP

[22] But the fruit of the Holy Spirit the work which His presence within accomplishes is love, joy (gladness), peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness,

We want to answer 3 questions

1. What is Joy?
2. How do you receive it?
3. How do you maintain it?

Complete the following sentence.

Joy is (what is joy to you?)

Joy is a gift of the Holy Spirit that enables the believer to be content in the midst of chaos.

Joy is one of the nine graces or characteristics that the Holy Spirit produces in the life of the Believer. Joy is not the same as happiness. Happiness is dependent upon external situations and circumstances working in your favor. Joy is dependent upon the Holy Spirit dwelling on the inside of the believer. You can have Joy in the midst of unfavorable situations and circumstances. Joy is an issue of the heart and it gives us strength in our inner person to carry on in obedience and faithfulness regardless. The believer's Joy stems from acceptance, faith and hope in the person of Jesus Christ.

Romans 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost

Joy is given by the Holy Ghost to those that are members of the kingdom of God. When you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior the Spirit of God - The Holy Spirit or the third person of the Holy Trinity comes alive on the inside of you. As you walk in the spirit or live life according to the leading of the Holy Spirit fruit begins to develop in your life.

Nehemiah 8:10 KJV

[10] Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Joy gives us the strength we need to continue on in faith.

John 15:11 KJV

[11] These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Jesus desires that His Joy would remain and be full in the life of His disciples. According to this passage His Joy will remain and be full if we abide in Him and keep His commandments. Your Joy will dwindle if you don't live your life in faith and obedience to Christ.

Suggestions....

1. Spend time in prayer on a daily basis. Give room for the Holy Spirit to speak to you, to comfort you in your situations and to give direction for your future.
2. Read your Bible so that you won't be ignorant of the truth or of Satan's devices
3. Maintain an attitude of gratitude. Thank God for what you do have and don't dwell on what you don't.