

Galatians 5:19-23

19 The acts of the flesh 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, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

John 15:1-5

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also 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 you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

1 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have 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 do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have 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 does not dishonor others, 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.

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

The fruit of the Holy Spirit includes nine attributes of a godly life that the Holy Spirit works to develop in the lives of those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior.

- Vines and branches John 15
- Works Fruit, and Gifts of the Spirit, Fruit of the Spirit
 - People won to Christ, Good works, Holy living
 - Come from the Holy Spirit/new nature not us
- Conditions: Fruit grows in the right climate. A climate with an abundance of the Word, prayer, worship, praise and fellowship.
- Fruit is grown to be eaten, not to be admired and put on display. People around us are starving for love, joy, peace and the other fruit. People can be drawn to God through us when they see the fruit in our lives.

Love = Agape. A selfless, unconditional commitment to care deeply for others. Actions not just feelings.

Joy = A deep, enduring sense of gladness and contentment that comes from trusting God

Peace = A calm, steady assurance in your heart that remains firm despite life's challenges

Forbearance/Patience = The ability to endure difficult situations and delays without frustration or anger

Kindness = Showing genuine care and compassion through thoughtful and generous actions

Goodness = Is consistently choosing to do what is morally right and honorable in all circumstances

Faithfulness = Is loyal reliability and trustworthiness grounded in God's unwavering faith

Gentleness = Gentleness is a humble attitude that approaches others with care and respect

Self-control = Is the discipline to manage impulses and desire to live wisely and responsibly (Life Church)

PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS

These are social virtues that are manward

A virtue is morally good behavior, a specific good moral quality.

Patience

It is the ability to endure poor treatment from life, or at the hands of others without lashing out or paying back.

- Longsuffering towards those who aggravate or persecute.
- Lenience, long-suffering, forbearance, perseverance, and steadfastness.

Question: Am I easily set off when things go wrong or people irritate me, or am I able to stay calm and keep a godly perspective in the face of life's irritations?

Kindness

Kindness is treating others with active compassion, tender words, and mercy.

- It's looking for ways to meet the needs of others. It's a gentle tone with coworkers, family members, and strangers. *Proverbs 15 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*
- Its responding to unkindness with a soft, forgiving answer rather than retaliation. *1 Corinthians 13:4-Love is patient, love is kind.*
- It's paying for someone's coffee, sending an encouraging text, or helping a neighbor with a chore.

Question: Is it my goal to serve others with kindness, or am I too focused on my own needs, desires, or problems to let the goodness of God overflow to others?

Goodness

Is consistently choosing to do what is morally right and honorable in all circumstances. Goodness reflects the character of God.

- Goodness is an active inclination toward doing what is right and beneficial for others, even when it is difficult or unnoticed.
- Goodness in you desires to see goodness in others, and is not beyond lovingly confronting or even rebuking for that to happen.
- Doing the right thing at your job or school even when no one is watching.
- Looking for daily opportunities to meet a practical need in your community.

Question: Does my life reflect the holiness of God, and do I desire to see others experience God at a deep level in their own lives?

(Sources: Compassion International and Life Church)
