

# THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Welcome to you dear sister. I am excited that you have decided to set time apart to give attention to a study of the Fruit of the Spirit. What a wonderful promise we have received from Our Lord that if we abide in Him we would bear much fruit and that fruit would remain....it would be  
***enduring and eternal fruit.***

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. "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.***  
(John 15:4-5)

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, ***and that your fruit should remain,*** that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.  
(John 15:16)

In a world of so many temporary and fading pleasures, how marvelous to know that God has ***eternity in mind*** as He does His work in and through our lives.  
He dreams big dreams for us!!!!

We have further insight into what this fruit looks like in the fifth chapter of the epistle to the Galatians. This is a familiar passage of Scripture that contrasts two lifestyles. On one side we see a description of a life that is being led by the flesh which is just our own selfish nature.

Now the ***works of the flesh are evident***, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19-21

Contrasted with that lifestyle, Paul then describes what are some of the attributes of a life led by the Holy Spirit.

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

It will be these *nine descriptive words* that we will spend time looking at over the next several months. To get the most from this time of study I pray that you would spend some time each month doing the exercises in this guide.

Write the 9 attributes listed in v. 22 and 23 over this bowl of fruit.

Use your best handwriting: 😊



To get us started the next page has a copy Galatians 5: 13-25. Get out some colored pencils or highlighters and let's dig into the text.

- Pick a color and Highlight/Underline "Spirit" in this passage.
- Using a different color highlight/underline "flesh"
- Circle words that tell us what actions we are to take regarding the Spirit
- Circle words that tell us what actions we are to take regarding the flesh
- With a colored pencil/pen underline the works of the flesh that you are struggling with. (use a Bible Dictionary to help you understand their meanings)
- With a different colored pencil/pen underline the fruit(s) of the Spirit you desire to see more evident in your life.
- Stop and breathe a prayer to the Holy Spirit to manifest these traits in increasing measure in your life.

### Dictionary Insights.

The word "walk" in verse 16 is the Greek word peripateo. It appears in the New Testament ninety-five times and has a very clear meaning. The word peripateo is a compound of the words peri and pateo. The word peri means around and suggest the idea of something that is encircling. The word pateo means to walk. It denotes the movement of the feet. It can mean to walk, to stroll, to stride, to tread or even to trample. Here in Galatians 5 it means to habitually walk around in one general vicinity. This, this word peripateo was often translated as the word "live" IN other words when we walk daily in the power of the Spirit of God it becomes our habit, our familiar path...one we could find easily even if blindfolded. A well-worn path that is familiar to us.

Galatians 5: (13) For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

(14) For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

(15) But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

(16) 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.

(18) But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

(19) Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

(20) idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

(21) envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

(22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

(23) gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

(24) And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

(25) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

## GOING FURTHER

Looking at verse 13-15, how many times is the phrase “one another” used? What does this tell you about the emphasis of the teaching on the walk of the Spirit? Who benefits as we walk in the fruit of the Spirit?

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***“The fruit of the Spirit in reality is the character of God being worked into the fabric of our lives. As we yield to the supernatural working of the Holy Spirit we are continually transformed and God’s character, His Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness and Self-Control are revealed with increasing regularity and purity.” Renewal Ministries of Colorado Springs***

Look up Romans 8:29 and Galatians 4: 19. Write in your own words what the Lord wants to do in your Life?

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Read the rest of Romans chapter 8 and see how lovingly committed the Lord is towards you.

*Write a prayer on the back of this page to the Lord asking Him to reveal His Glory in an increasing measure TO you and THROUGH you, as you walk daily yielded to His Spirit working IN you.*

### ***Galatians 5:16***

***(an amplified translation from Sparkling Gems from the Greek)***

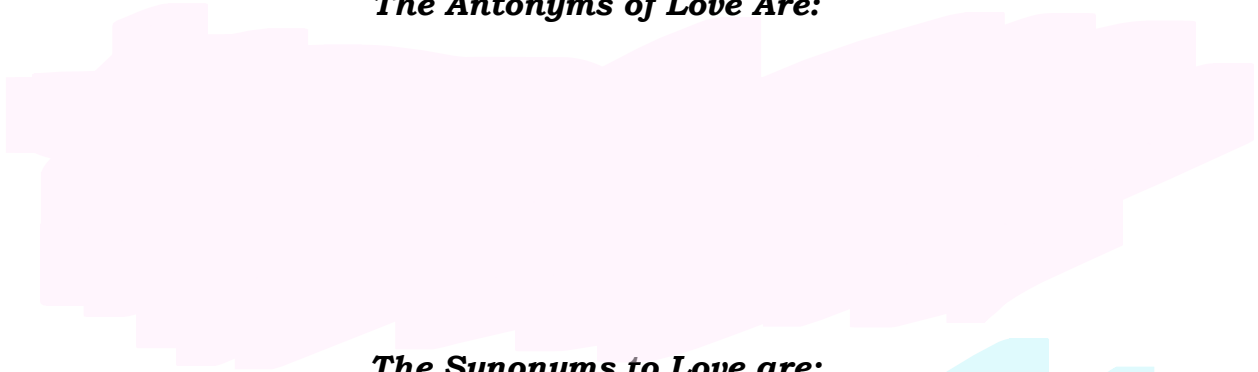
***“Make the path of the Spirit the place where you habitually live and walk. Become so comfortable on this spiritual path that you learn to leisurely and peacefully stroll along in that realm. Living your life in this Spirit realm is the best way to guarantee that you will not allow the yearning of your flesh to creep out and fulfill themselves.”***

# LOVE

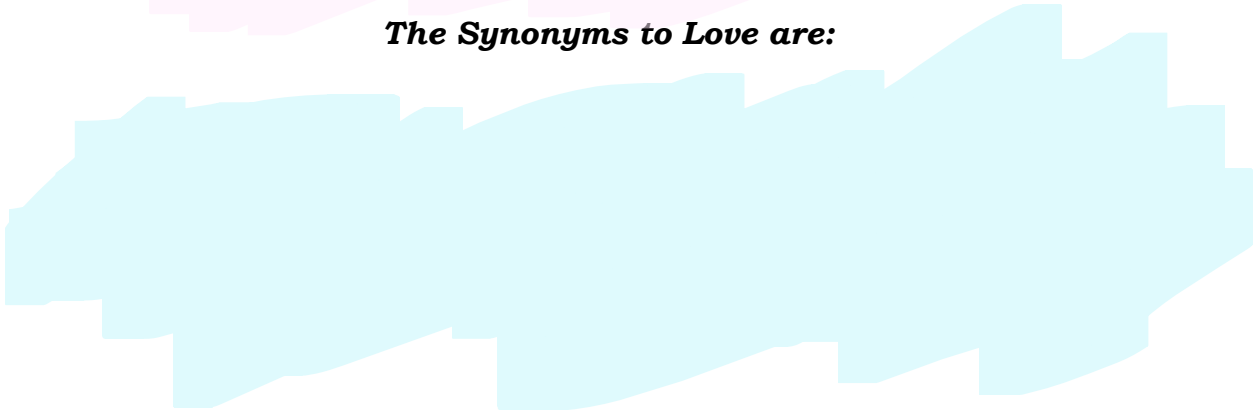
As part of our study each month I will ask you to sit quietly and reflect on each word. Below you will have space to write down every opposite word you can think of when considering that attribute. NO CHEATING! Don't use a Thesaurus just yet.

Next You will spend time thinking of all the synonyms for that word. Again just search your own mind and heart as you do this.

***The Antonyms of Love Are:***



***The Synonyms to Love are:***



Now look up the word Love in a regular dictionary, what are some further insights?

Now use a Bible Dictionary. One can be found online at  
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/>

Jot down some further insights into the idea of Biblical love.

**Write John 14:15 in the space below.**

Read the next verse **v. 16-17**. Who does Jesus promise He will send to help us live for Him?

**Turn to Mark 12:28-31**

According to Our Lord Jesus what are the two greatest commandments?

**Read Romans 13:8-10**

How does Paul link love for others with the fulfillment of the ten commandments (the Law)?

**Turn to 1 John 4: 7-11**

What does this tell us about the source of all Love? \_\_\_\_\_

What should motivate us to love one another? \_\_\_\_\_

**Continue reading v. 12-13.**

How do these verses tie in with the ones we learned at the beginning of our lesson on the Fruit of the Spirit? How do we access this Love of God?

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Let's Read 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

(2) And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

(3) And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

(4) Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

(5) does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;

(6) does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

(7) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

(8) Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. (NKJV)

***\*\*\*To answer these questions feel free to reference other Bible translations to gain fuller understanding. \*\*\*\****

From verses 1 to 3 List all the “wonderful things’ we might do for the Lord as highlighted here. (the first one is done for you)

1. Speak with the tongues of men and of angels ...in other words  
if I have great eloquence
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

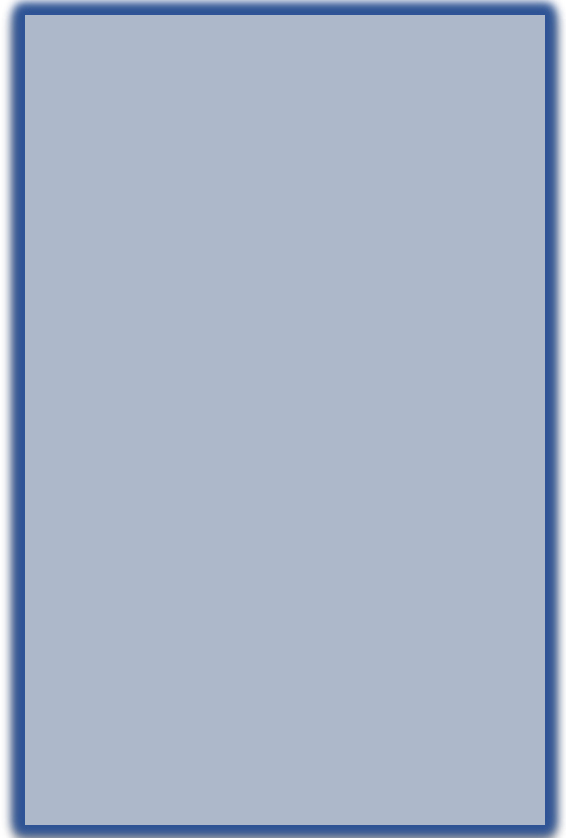
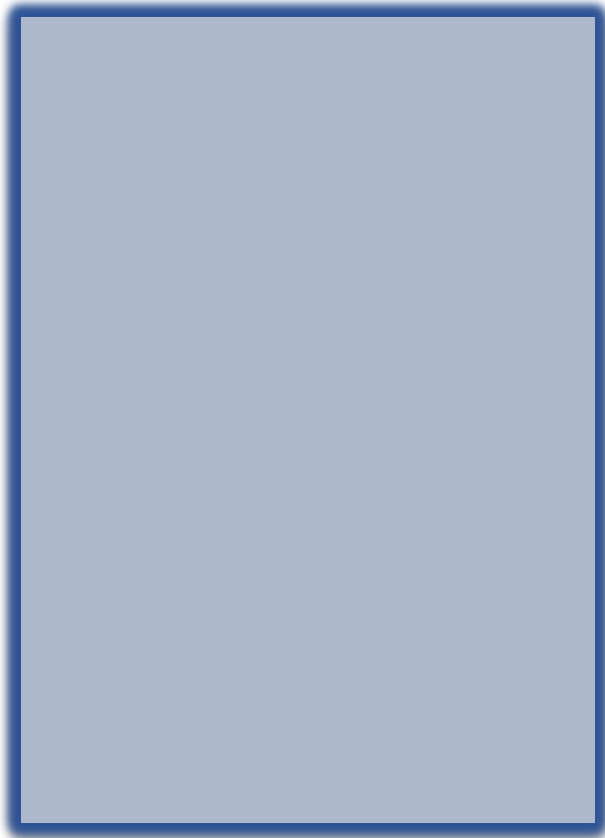
List what happens if all the above are done ***without love***: (first one is done for you)

1. I am just a noisy, annoying intrusive sound
- 2.
- 3.



Now let's get into verses 4-8. As you read this passage make 2 lists:

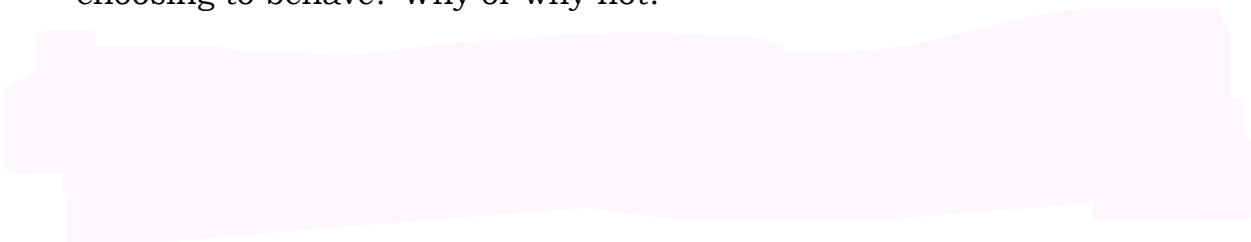
Love Does/IS :  
What Love Does Not/Isn't:



Would you say this passage displays love as a warm fuzzy emotion?  
Why or why not?



Would you say this passage displays love as an act of will and a way of  
choosing to behave? Why or why not?



Look at the boxes you have worked on above and at the definitions you worked on in the first part of this section.

*Now spend some time slowly reading and highlighting the following paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 from Sparkling Gems from the Greek.*

“Love patiently and passionately bears with others for as long as patience is needed.

Love does not demand others to be like itself; rather it is so focused on the needs of others that it bends over backwards to become what others need to be;

Love is not ambitious, self-centered or so consumed with itself that it never thinks of the needs or desires that others possess;

Love doesn’t go around talking about itself all the time, constantly exaggerating and embellishing the facts to make it look more important in the sight of others.

Love does not behave in a prideful, arrogant, haughty, superior, snooty, snobbish or clannish manner;

Love is not rude, and discourteous---it is not careless or thoughtless, nor does it carry on in a fashion that would be considered insensitive to others;

Love does not manipulate situations or scheme and devise methods that will twist situations to its own advantage;

Love does not deliberately engage in actions or speak words that are so sharp, they cause an ugly or violent response;

Love does not deliberately keep records of wrongs or past mistakes;

Love does not feel overjoyed when it sees an injustice done to someone else but is elated, thrilled, ecstatic, and overjoyed with the truth;

Love protects shields, guards, covers, conceals, and safeguards people from exposure;

Love strains forward with all its might to believe the very best in every situation;

Love always expects and anticipates the best in others and the best for others;

Love never quits, never surrenders, and never gives up;

Love never disappoints, never fails, and never lets anyone down.”

WHAT A TALL ORDER!! SADLY, THIS DOESN'T ALWAYS SOUND LIKE US...NOW GO BACK AND PUT THE NAME OF "JESUS" OVER THE WORD "LOVE" WHEREVER IT APPEARS IN THE VERSES.

Prayerfully in the light of the love and grace of the Holy Spirit and Our sweet LOVING Savior Jesus...let's do an inventory of our behavior in the last few days.

Ouch!!! I know! Thankfully we know that God's Word is a 2-edged sword--- it wounds but it also binds up.

***What areas are you struggling with a lack of agape love in your life?***

***What words that you listed for synonyms and antonyms of LOVE could describe you?***

Let's stop and confess our failures to Him.  
He is faithful and just to forgive us. 1 John 1: 8-9

Ask Him to fill you afresh with His Holy Spirit, so that the love of God would be manifested with fresh power in your life!!

## GOING DEEPER

Now...let's get our root system down deep into the Love of God.

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

**We cannot manufacture this love in our own strength!!**

**He is the source !!**

Look up the following verses and put each one into your own words.

Each of these verses use the Greek word AGAPE,

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*AGAPE- "Agape love is selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love. It is the highest of the four types of love in the Bible.*

*This Greek word, agápē, and variations of it are frequently found throughout the New Testament. Agape perfectly describes the kind of love Jesus Christ has for his Father and for his followers.*

*Agape is the term that defines God's immeasurable, incomparable love for humankind. It is his ongoing, outgoing, self-sacrificing concern for lost and fallen people. God gives this love without condition, unreservedly to those who are undeserving and inferior to himself. " John Zavada*

*"Agape love," says Anders Nygren, "Is unmotivated in the sense that it is not contingent on any value or worth in the object of love. It is spontaneous and heedless, for it does not determine beforehand whether love will be effective or appropriate in any particular case."*

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***Feel free to just do one verse per day and just savor the  
message of love from the Father.***

John 3:16

John 15:13

John 15:25-26


Romans 5: 5-8

Romans 8:35-39

Ephesians 3: 17-19

1 John 3:1-2

End this month's lesson with a prayer of thanksgiving and praise for the wonderful AGAPE love of the Lord for you.



Love Through Me, Love of God;  
There is no love in me.  
O Fire of love, light Thou the love  
That burns perpetually.

Flow through me, Peace of God;  
Calm River, flow until  
No wind can blow, no current stir  
A ripple of self will.

Shine through me Joy of God;  
Make me like Thy clear air  
That Thou dost pour Thy colors through,  
As though it were not there.

O Blessed Love of God,  
That all may taste and see  
How good Thou art, once more I pray:  
Love through me—even me.  
--Amy Carmichael--