

Exploring the Holy Spirit

Point of Light Group

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Week 5: The Fruit of the Spirit

What is the evidence of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

“You will know them by their fruit”

- Jesus when warning against false prophets says in Matthew 7:15-20 that you will know them by their fruit. If those who claim to be a prophet really are so, their character should reflect their gift.
- Those who have been filled with Holy Spirit are having their character refined by the Spirit. He is the Spirit of truth who leads us in God’s truth (John 14:16-18)

The Spirit and Flesh at war

- The author says in Galatians 5:17 that the flesh and spirit stand in contrast to each other. Our mind, will, and emotions can either be led by selfish desire or God’s desire. The Holy Spirit helps us to see situations through the lens of the Jesus and helps us to grow in His character.
- The works of the flesh are adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, and revelries. The author tells us in Ephesians 5:21 that those who walk in these things operate in their fleshly desires and cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

- Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control should be the evidence of a follower of Jesus. These fruits describe the nature of God and are the evidence of the Holy Spirit.

How do we grow in the nature of God?

Learning to display the fruit of the Spirit is a journey.

- We go from Glory to Glory as the author describes in 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
 - o If you are struggling in any area regarding the character of the Holy Spirit, do not feel condemned or that you are doing anything wrong. You are simply on a journey. Where the Spirit of the Lord resides, there is freedom. The Spirit has chosen to reside in us so we should not feel condemned, but free -- free to learn, grow and make mistakes in our walk with Jesus.

Ask and you will receive

- Jesus says in Matthew 7:7-12 to keep asking and seeking God to grow into His likeness. If we, being fallible humanity, know how to give good gifts to our kids, how much more does a perfect God know how to help us? Don’t doubt the power of the Holy Spirit. He resides in us!