

Holy Spirit: Wind & Fire | Fruit of the Spirit

- a. The Holy Spirit bears fruit in our lives. What is it and how do I get it?

Introduction:

When the Apostle Paul is writing to the church in Galatia, he is writing to men and women, young and old, Jews and non-Jews, who have now become a part of the early Christian church. There are Jewish believers who believe the Gentiles, the non-Jews, must first become Jewish to become Christians. This would require real human effort, from following the laws of circumcision, to following all the other laws required by the Jewish faith. Paul seeks to help the believers in Galatia understand that faith in Christ is not work. Faith in Jesus and walking in step with His Holy Spirit, produces fruit in the life of a believer. No amount of work or effort can produce this fruit. They must also understand that following Jesus is not a license to keep living in sin, rather it frees people to serve God and serve each other. It is a call to not only put oneself in a position to grow spiritual fruit, but also to *crucify the desires of the flesh and keep in step with the Spirit*.

Read Your Bible

- Galatians 5:13-26
- Matthew 7:15-20

Apply God's Word to Your Life:

1. When reading Galatians 5:13-26, Paul tells the church in Galatia they are free. What are they freed from and what are they freed for?
2. What is Paul warning them against in verse 13, with regards to their freedom?

3. What are some of the comparisons being made in Galatians 5:13-26?
4. Paul writes a list of the “work of the flesh,” what does some of this look like in the world around you and then, what does it look like in your own life?
5. Paul writes of the “fruit of the Spirit.” What does this look like? How have you seen this fruit grow in your own life?
6. What are some ways we can “keep in step with the Spirit?”
7. How does Paul’s writing on the Fruit of the Spirit connect with Jesus’ teaching from Matthew 7?

Reflecting on the text:

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

Pray

Father God, thank You that we do not have to live a life that is ruled by our sinful desires, but that You have given us the Holy Spirit. Thank You that it is the Holy Spirit that works in us and through us, helping us become more like Your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us the ability to keep in step with the Spirit, each new day. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.