



# Galatians 5:22-26: The Fruit of the Spirit

Grace and the Gospel Bible Study

St. John Lutheran Church

“The apostle does not say the works of the Spirit, as he said the works of the flesh. Instead, he adorns these Christian virtues with a more honorable title calling them the fruit of the Spirit, for they bring with them the most useful and beneficial fruits, for all who have these render glory to God, and with these, they attract and provoke others to embrace the doctrine and faith in Christ.” - Martin Luther, *Commentary on Saint Paul’s Epistle to the Galatians*

We defined the desires of the flesh last week. What does Paul mean by *flesh*?

What alternative does Paul suggest to the desires of the flesh?

“Sow your wild oats.” What does the metaphor mean?

Isaiah 5:4 What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

## Galatians 5:22

Why is the Greek word for *fruit* singular?

What kind of fruit does the Spirit work in God’s people?

The Fruit of the Spirit

- love
- joy
- peace
- patience
- kindness
- goodness
- faithfulness

## Galatians 5:23

The Fruit of the Spirit

- gentleness
- self-control

What part of this list surprises you?

Does God care about our character?

How does the fruit of the Spirit relate to the law?

### **Galatians 5:24**

What has been crucified in those who belong to Christ? Who does the crucifying?

**Colossians 3:3** For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Do you think of yourself as one who belongs to Christ?

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

### **Galatians 5:25**

What must follow in the lives of those who live by the Spirit?

**Galatians 5:16** But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

### **Galatians 5:26**

What final warning does Paul offer?

**Philippians 2:3** Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

In Christ, we are set free from the Mosaic's Law's demands and condemnation. How then does a Christian relate to God's commands in the Bible?