

RIPENING THE FRUIT Galatians 5:13-26; Ja. 3:13-18 11/5/06
Harvesting the Christ-like qualities the Spirit seeds in you.

HOW MANY FRUIT ARE THERE? Galatians 5:22-23.

There's only one. "the fruit" not "the fruits."

It's the opposite of the "acts of the sinful nature."
Galatians 5:19-21

It describes God's character exactly.

Traces of this fruit are the "hard evidence" of genuine faith.

"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit." Luke 6:43-44

WHAT'S THE RELATIONSHIP TO SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

A different expectation for our involvement.

There are many gifts & each Christian has at least one.

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."
Romans 12:6

The one Fruit of the Spirit is for all Christians to experience.
All nine of its qualities are for each of us.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self control." Galatians 5:22

A different estimation of their worth.

Scripture appraises the fruit to be of greater value.

"But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

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 have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing."
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:3

$$g - f = 0$$

Giftedness is no guarantee of maturity.

CARING FOR GOD'S ORCHARD

Planting the right root

"So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit..." Romans 7:4-6

Tending the good shoots .

Fruit can't be manufactured but it can be farmed.

clear the fruit killers.

"those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with it's passion & desires." Galatians. 5:24

cultivate the new crop.

"A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians. 6:7-9

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last." John 15:16

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WHAT'S THE RELATIONSHIP TO _____ ?

A different _____ for our involvement.

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