

Share:

1) Reread Colossians 1:9-12:

- a) Paul reminds his readers of the importance of serving as a support structure for all believers. We often act in prayer for the needs of the hurting or struggling, while overlooking those who seem to “have it all together.” Why is it important for the body of Christ to continue to pray for each other, even if it seems things are going well in another’s life?

Serve:

- 1) Maybe you are one of the ones whose life looks as if you “have it all together,” yet you could use prayer. If so, you probably know what it’s like to be overlooked. What can you do this week to open yourself up to the Holy Spirit and pray for those whose struggles aren’t quite so obvious?

Prayer:

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how you might direct your prayer life for all, even if it seems like their life is in order?

The Fruit of the Spirit is...

January 14, 2018

Scripture:

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Ga 5:22–23 (NASB95)

¹⁵“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶“You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn *bushes* nor figs from thistles, are they? ¹⁷“So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸“A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. ¹⁹“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰“So then, you will know them by their fruits.

Mt 7:15–20 (NASB95)

From the Introduction:

The questions we must consider this morning focus on this idea, and lead us to ask...

- What is fruit bearing?
- How can one know good fruit from bad fruit?
- How does one develop good Spiritual fruit?

- 1) What is fruit bearing?
 - a) It begins with _____ seeds.
 - b) Proper seeds result in _____ fruit.
- 2) How can one know good fruit from bad fruit?
 - a) By paying _____.
 - b) By not _____ bad fruit when it begins to develop.
- 3) How does one develop good Spiritual fruit?
 - a) By developing spiritual _____.
 - b) By growing in the grace and _____ of the Savior.

Remember:

For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,¹⁰ so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. (Col. 1:9-12 NASB)

Reflect:

“The world is full of selfishness and cruelty, but there is Christlike kindness in the life that is full of the Holy Spirit.” – Robert C. Cunningham

Seek:

- 1) Many, if not all of us, have a favorite fruit that we truly enjoy; whether it is an apple, a pear, an orange, or a kiwi. Do you have a favorite, go to fruit? What is it about that fruit that make it your favorite?
- 2) In the same manner, many of us have a favorite passage of Scripture that serves as our spiritual nourishment, or fruit. What is it about that passage that draws you to it time and again?