

9.10.23

Joy

Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 13:44-46



1. In our series on the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23, we have stressed that the fruit listed is a result of the Holy Spirit producing the Christ-life in the believer's life! The **inward evidence** (attitudes/traits of Christ) of the Spirit's work in our life is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The Scripture also gives numerous **outward evidences** of fruit that God produces from the believer's life. Look up the following passages and write down the outward fruit (the visible testimony Pastor Trevor mentioned) that is produced by the Spirit of God:
 - Romans 1:13-15; I Corinthians 16:15
 - Romans 6:22
 - Colossians 1:10
 - Hebrews 13:5
 - Romans 15:28; Philippians 4:17

2. The definition we are using for JOY is: Resting in the deep comfort that God is in control. This is an inner peace, contentment, trust in God being in control even when circumstances are not what we would have chosen for ourselves. Look up the following situations and notice how joy is NOT a result of everything going well in our lives:
 - II Corinthians 7:4-7
 - II Corinthians 8:1-5
 - Philippians 1:12-18 (key to this text is to understand where Paul was when writing Philippians)
 - I Thessalonians 1:6-7
 - Hebrews 10:34
 - Hebrews 12:1-2

Connection Card Next Steps - Memorize Matthew 13:44-46

***I want to leave behind** things of lesser value, and I want the pearl of great price, which is Jesus Christ!

***I want the Spirit of God to** increase my love for Jesus Christ that my joy might be full and my rejoicing authentic.