

The Fruit of the Spirit – Intro

Galatian 5:22-23 (NET)

Most common reasons for rejecting Christianity:

1. Perceived hypocrisy of religious people.
2. Human suffering.
3. Science.

We must be different to make a difference.

Our spiritual fruit is an indicator of our spiritual maturity.

God desires us to have all of the fruit of the Spirit.

It's about character, which is something inside us.

But it is easy to focus on the external. (1 Samuel 16:6-7)

An external focus looks at:

- Charisma versus Character.
- Image versus Integrity.
- Trendy versus Trustworthy.
- Cool versus Courageous.
- Hype versus Holiness.

You can't learn fruit. Fruit is the byproduct of who we are.

We need to fall in love with Jesus.

A Personal Check-up.

1. Do people find it hard to trust me?
2. Am I preoccupied with how I look?
3. Do I treat people badly when I'm stressed?
4. Do I break confidences to be accepted?
5. Has my spouse lost respect for me?
6. Have I had frequent conflicts?
7. Are there morally questionable behaviors that I am keeping secret?
8. Am I generally oblivious to how my choices affect others?
9. Do I take credit for work I did not do?
10. Am I controlling or shaming in how I treat others?
11. Are my customers & employees frequently turning over?
12. Do I secretly enjoy nursing & rehearsing past offenses?

The gospel is not a learned behavior. It is a transformation of the inner person. (John 15:4-5)

Our gold standard (Galatians 5:13-14, Galatians 1:6-7, Galatians 5:2-3, Galatians 5:17)

A reality check (Galatians 5:19-21)

The character of Jesus (Galatians 5:22-23 NET)

Our supernatural help (Galatians 5:24-25)

Audio recordings at: <https://www.fontanachristianchurch.org/sunday-school-recordings/>

All scripture is from the New International Version unless otherwise noted.