



Key Scripture:

Galatians 5:22–25 (ESV)

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

²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

1 John 3:2–3 (ESV)

² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Colossians 3:1–4 (ESV)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Discussion Questions:

In John 14:26-27 & 16:7 Jesus tells us that it is to our advantage that He left us. **How do you think life would be different if Jesus was still here today? How could Jesus leaving us be a good thing?**

Paul had never physically been with Jesus like the disciples had, yet he seemed to think he knew Jesus well enough to say what he did in Galatians 2:20. **How could Paul claim such a thing if he had never spent time with Christ?** Paul made it sound like it was 100% Jesus living within himself, and 0% him. **In what way did he mean that?**

Read Galatians 5:22-25. **Why did the writer use the singular word "fruit" instead of a plural? Why must they all be growing at the same time in a believer?**

Andy, on Sunday, said that growing in the fruit of the Spirit is inevitable for someone who has Christ & the Spirit living inside of them. Compare this growth to that of an unborn baby or plant in the sense that neither thing consciously decides to grow. **Do you think this claim is true?**

Are you seeing positive growth in the attributes listed in verse 22 & 23 in your life right now? Does it feel fast, slow or in any way plateaued?

The attributes of the fruit of the Spirit seem to all be about someone's character. **Does it surprise you that it's not more about external things?**

Read 1 John 3:2-3. This verse talks about the transformation that will take place when we stand before Jesus in heaven. Seeing Jesus changes everything. **In what way does focusing on Jesus while still on earth still produce change in us?**

Intimacy with the Spirit produces this growth. **Is there anything that you can do to cultivate the growth of this fruit in your life?**

Do you think it's attainable for you to claim what Paul claimed in Galatians 2:20? Now or someday? How only could that come about?