



AM Bible Study
Pastor Sam Young, Jr.

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Part II: Do You Have What It Takes to Be a Christian?

Introduction

On last week, we explored one aspect of the Fruit of the Spirit which is Love, Joy, Peace, and Longsuffering; today we will explore the other aspects of the Fruit of the Spirit which is Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness and Temperance. Just as physical fruit need time to grow, the Fruit of the Spirit will not ripen in our lives overnight.

Gentleness/Kindness – Colossians 3:12

Gentleness/Kindness is the opposite of harshness with others. It is power over one's Spirit. Gentleness requires great strength and self-control. Someone who lacks gentleness is often prideful and easily angered. However, one who is gentle wants to help others, even when others have been wronged.

Goodness – Psalm 23:6; Galatians 6:7-10

The word "good" means holy, pure, and righteous. Goodness is godliness. Christians should have a heart that seeks goodness. We are not to just do good works, because doing good works without a good heart is empty.

Faith – James 1:5-8

The Greek word for faith means a firm persuasion, belief, trust, confidence, acceptance, and moral conviction. Faith has to do with what we believe and the strength of that belief. Faith is not belief in God only. Faith believes in God without wavering.

Meekness – Saint Matthew 11:29

Meekness does not identify the weak but more precisely the strong who are placed in a position of weakness where they persevere without giving up. The quality of meekness is another major quality needed in our church world today.

Temperance/Self-control – Proverbs 25:28

Temperance is the ability to regulate one's emotions, thoughts, and behavior in the face of temptations and impulses. True self-control is not about bringing ourselves under our own control, but under the power of Christ. Choosing to give up trying to control things on our own, surrendering to God for help, and working alongside Him is real self-control. The Holy Spirit helps us to have power over our sinful desires so that we can promote real change.

Conclusion

In this lesson, the Apostle Paul has given us "The Fruit of the Spirit," that results from true repentance, turning away from our sinful ways toward love for God and our neighbors.