

One of the main functions of the Holy Spirit is to impart the holiness of God to us.

He does this as He develops within us a Christlike character

A character marked by the fruit of the Spirit

God’s purpose is that we would “become mature, attaining the full measure of perfection found in Christ” (Eph. 4:13)

Fruit: God’s Expectation

Basic difference between the gifts of the Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit

Fruit of the Spirit is not divided among the believers

All Christians should be marked by all the fruit of the Spirit

Fruit rather than fruits

The Holy Spirit is the source of all fruit

like a tree bearing the fruit of apples

We need the Spirit to bring fruit into our lives because we cannot produce godliness apart from the Spirit

1) the sin in our lives needs to be thrust out

2) the Holy Spirit needs to come in and fill our lives, producing the fruit of the Spirit (Col. 3:5,12)

Analogy to a gated fence around a house

The Holy Spirit controls the gate

Purges the heart of wickedness to let it out

Works of the flesh depart

Brings in new attitudes, new motivations, new devotions and love

The fruit of the Holy Spirit comes in

How the Fruit Grows

Psalm 1:2,3 “But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither: and in whatever he does, he prospers.”

Read and meditate on the Bible – the Holy Spirit (inspired the Bible)

Convicts us of sin which needs to be purged

Directs us to God’s standard for our lives

John 15:4,5 “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing”

- command to every believer – “Abide in Me” – intimate relationship w/ Christ
- we can only bear spiritual fruit if we abide in Christ
- the secret of abiding is obedience
- it takes time to mature
- pruning may be necessary before fruit is produced in quantity
- pruning is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit

Matt. 15:13 “Every plant which my heavenly Father did not plant shall be rooted up.”

Matt. 7:20 “You will know them by their fruits.”

John 15 Lord Jesus - the vine
 Believers – the branches
 Gardener – God through the Holy Spirit

Example of Apollos – immature & unprepared to lead others into the deeper Christian life

Priscilla and Aquila – took him in to expound the way of the Lord (Acts 18:26)

He began to use his gifts for the glory of God and the winning of souls

Fruit of the Holy Spirit evidence of maturity

Are you abiding in Christ?

Primary condition God sets down for us

before we can really bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit

Get rid of anything which is keeping you from a close walk with Christ

Be involved with the Bible and the Holy Spirit