

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



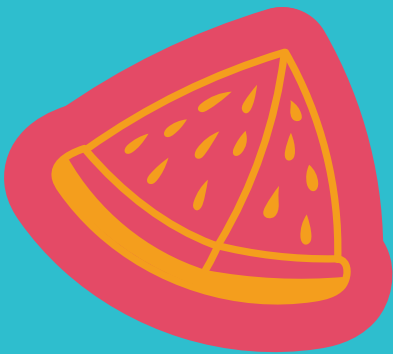
**A 9-WEEK DEVOTIONAL THROUGH
THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**





***“BUT THE FRUIT OF
THE SPIRIT IS LOVE,
JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE,
KINDNESS, GOODNESS,
FAITHFULNESS,
GENTLENESS AND
SELF-CONTROL.”***

GALATIANS 5:22–23



WEEK 1

LOVE

"LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND. IT DOES NOT ENVY, IT DOES NOT BOAST, IT IS NOT PROUD. IT DOES NOT DISHONOR OTHERS, IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING, IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED, IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS. LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL BUT REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH. IT ALWAYS PROTECTS, ALWAYS TRUSTS, ALWAYS HOPES, ALWAYS PERSEVERES."
1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

DEVOTIONAL

The heart and nature of God is love but not just any love... agape love. Agape love is selfless and unconditional. This is the type of love that God pours out on you. It is also a fruit of the spirit, meaning love is something we get to inhabit when the Holy Spirit dwells within us and we abide in the Lord. We are to be set apart, pointing others to the love of God. The Holy Spirit enables us to love those who are hard to love and to prioritize others above ourselves.

REFLECTION QUESTION

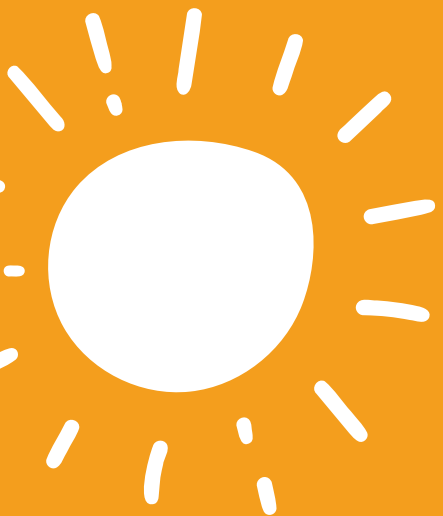
Who do I need to love more intentionally this week, even if it costs me something?

"BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL."
GALATIANS 5:22-23



***“YOU, MY BROTHERS AND
SISTERS, WERE CALLED TO
BE FREE. BUT DO NOT USE
YOUR FREEDOM TO INDULGE
THE FLESH; RATHER, SERVE
ONE ANOTHER HUMBLY IN
LOVE. FOR THE ENTIRE LAW
IS FULFILLED IN KEEPING
THIS ONE COMMAND: “LOVE
YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.”***

GALATIANS 5:13-14



WEEK 2

JOY

**"MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT."
ROMANS 15:13**

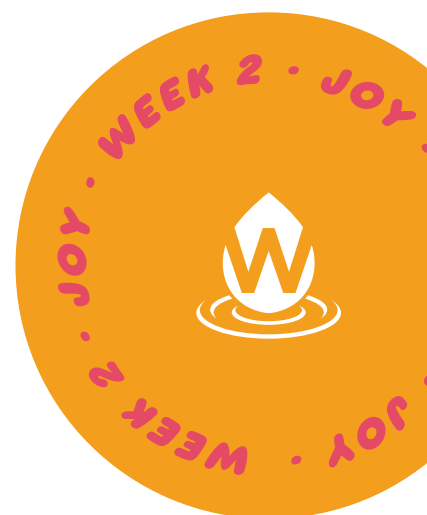
DEVOTIONAL

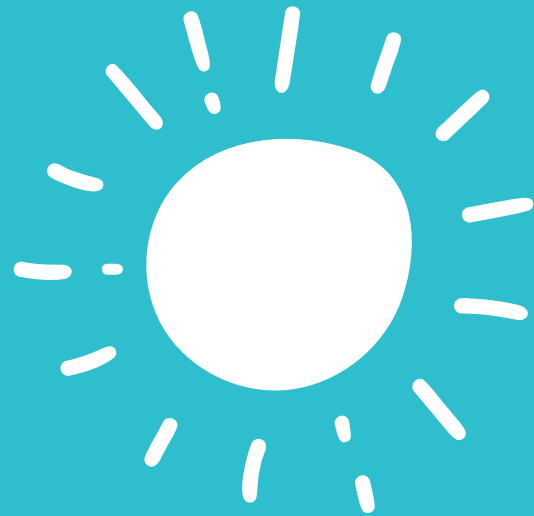
It's interesting that hope is not a fruit of the spirit, but joy and peace are. You see hope is the precursor for fruit. Why? Because hope isn't just wishing... hope has a name and His name is Jesus. Hope is the confident expectation that God IS going to do great things. Joy, then, goes beyond happiness. It is a deep, abiding sense of delight rooted in God's presence, regardless of our circumstances. The Holy Spirit produces joy when we focus on the hope of God with us and the fact that He never loses a battle.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Joy is based on the goodness of and hope of God. What about God gives you a fresh joy that you can take a hold of today?

**"BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL."
GALATIANS 5:22-23**





***“IF YOU BITE AND DEVOUR
EACH OTHER, WATCH OUT OR
YOU WILL BE DESTROYED BY
EACH OTHER. SO I SAY, WALK
BY THE SPIRIT, AND YOU
WILL NOT GRATIFY THE
DESIRES OF THE FLESH.”***

GALATIANS 5:15–16

WEEK 3

PEACE

"DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERY SITUATION, BY PRAYER AND PETITION, WITH THANKSGIVING, PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD. 7 AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH TRANSCENDS ALL UNDERSTANDING, WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS."
PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

DEVOTIONAL

Peace from the Spirit is not the absence of trouble, but calm and assurance in the midst of it. In fact, Scripture says that God offers us peace beyond understanding. The peace that God wants to offer you is one that can come before you have answers, in the midst of receiving bad news and in the most unexpected circumstances. What does that do for you? Allows you to live surefooted in a broken world. As we surrender our fears to God, the Holy Spirit gives us a peace that the world cannot understand or replicate. And we are to live and love others out of that peace.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Peace comes when you humble yourself enough to pray to the Lord with thanksgiving about what's going on in your life. Gratitude paves the way for peace. What anxiety or burden can I shift my focus from and choose gratitude toward God instead? Take time to thank God for who He is and what He's done.

"BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL."
GALATIANS 5:22-23





***“FOR THE FLESH DESIRES
WHAT IS CONTRARY TO THE
SPIRIT, AND THE
SPIRIT WHAT IS CONTRARY
TO THE FLESH. THEY ARE
IN CONFLICT WITH EACH
OTHER, SO THAT YOU ARE
NOT TO DO WHATEVER YOU
WANT. 18 BUT IF YOU ARE
LED BY THE SPIRIT, YOU ARE
NOT UNDER THE LAW.”***

GALATIANS 5:17–18

WEEK 4

PATIENCE

**“BE COMPLETELY HUMBLE AND GENTLE; BE PATIENT, BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE.”
EPHESIANS 4:2**

DEVOTIONAL

Patience is the ability to endure hardship, delay, or frustration without complaint. How do you think our culture is doing at that these days? Where anger is rampant, we can see God's wisdom in offering us patience when we abide in Him. Spiritual patience isn't about enduring when it is easy, it's having the trust and grace to wait on the Lord. The wonderful thing about the fruit of the spirit, is that each of these attributes are considered one whole fruit not individual fruits. So when we walk in patience, we can do so with kindness and peace as opposed to anger and anxiety. The Lord is with you, wherever you go.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where am I struggling to be patient—with others, myself, or with God?
How can I surrender and trust God in order to walk in patience?

**“BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL.”
GALATIANS 5:22-23**



**“THE ACTS OF THE FLESH ARE
OBVIOUS: SEXUAL IMMORALITY,
IMPURITY AND DEBAUCERY; IDOLATRY
AND WITCHCRAFT; HATRED, DISCORD,
JEALOUSY, FITS OF RAGE,
SELFISH AMBITION, DISSENSIONS,
FACTIONS AND ENVY;
DRUNKENNESS, ORGIES, AND THE
LIKE. I WARN YOU, AS I DID BEFORE,
THAT THOSE WHO LIVE LIKE THIS
WILL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM
OF GOD.”**

GALATIANS 5:19-21



WEEK 5

KINDNESS

**“CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH
COMPASSION, KINDNESS,
HUMILITY, GENTLENESS
AND PATIENCE.”
COLOSSIANS 3:12**

DEVOTIONAL

Kindness is a fruit placed in the middle of patience and goodness. It's difficult to be patient without kindness. It's also difficult to receive God's patient timing without also knowing that He is kind, not cruel. The fruit of the spirit is ultimately not about us, it is meant to show us the character of God. If God is truly kind in all of His ways toward you, then how can you in turn soften your heart? In patience, the Holy Spirit prompts us to notice others and to serve them humbly.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Is it possible God has been kind to me in every circumstance? Ask God to reveal how He has been present and kind toward you, even in the difficult circumstances.

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PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS,
GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL.”
GALATIANS 5:22-23**





***“BUT THE FRUIT OF THE
SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY,
PEACE, FORBEARANCE,
KINDNESS, GOODNESS,
FAITHFULNESS,
GENTLENESS AND
SELF-CONTROL. AGAINST
SUCH THINGS THERE
IS NO LAW.”***

GALATIANS 5:22-23

WEEK 6

GOODNESS

***“DO NOT BE OVERCOME
BY EVIL, BUT OVERCOME
EVIL WITH GOOD.”
ROMANS 12:21***

DEVOTIONAL

Goodness is not truly good if only done when the circumstances are easy. It's not just about avoiding wrong, but actively seeking to bless others and honor God through our choices and behavior. We often think we are “good people” but the truth is, the only one who was truly good was Jesus. And in His goodness, He still endured difficulty and gave of His life for your salvation. Jesus is the ultimate example of goodness, and we ought to lay down our pride in order to receive His grace.

REFLECTION QUESTION

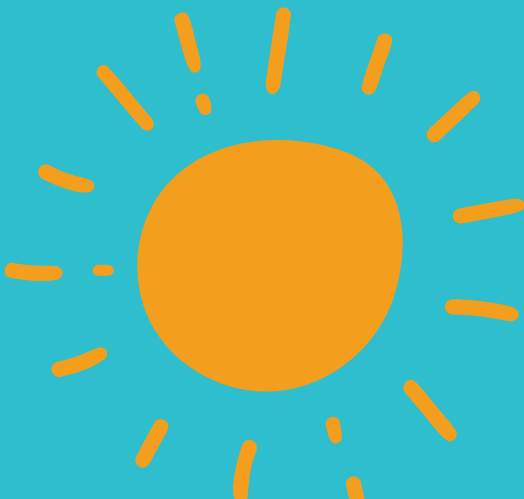
It is often hard to overcome evil because instead of inhabiting goodness, we sit in our pride thinking we are a “victim.” You aren't a victim, you are the beloved of God. If that is true, how can you walk in goodness?

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PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS,
GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL.”
GALATIANS 5:22-23***



***“THOSE WHO BELONG TO
CHRIST JESUS HAVE
CRUCIFIED THE FLESH
WITH ITS PASSIONS
AND DESIRES.”***

GALATIANS 5:24



WEEK 7

FAITHFULNESS

**"BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE WE ARE NOT CONSUMED, FOR HIS COMPASSIONS NEVER FAIL. THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS."
LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23**

DEVOTIONAL

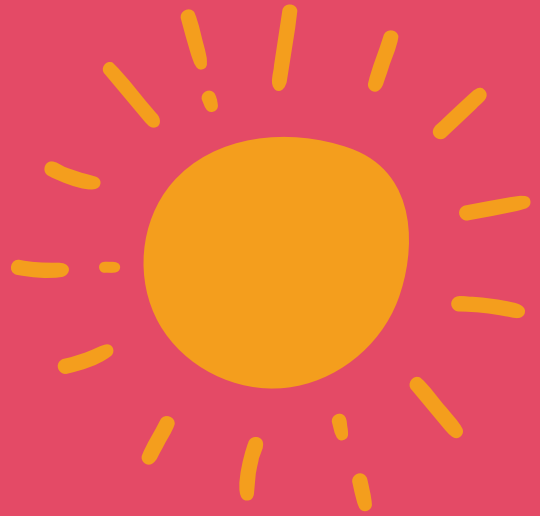
We live in a culture where people often do not keep their commitments. If something no longer feels good, we're out. We decide when we want to be faithful or not. But a life of faith is realizing that even when it didn't make sense, God was faithful to you. And therefore, if God IS faithful, then you can be faithful to Him. Faithfulness means being reliable, trustworthy, and loyal. God is perfectly faithful, and always has been. God is after our hearts, not just our obedience.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Am I someone that others, and God, can count on, even when it's inconvenient?

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GALATIANS 5:22-23**





***“SINCE WE LIVE BY THE
SPIRIT, LET US KEEP IN
STEP WITH THE SPIRIT.”***

GALATIANS 5:25

WEEK 8

GENTLENESS

***“A GENTLE ANSWER TURNS AWAY WRATH, BUT A HARSH WORD STIRS UP ANGER.”
PROVERBS 15:1***

DEVOTIONAL

Gentleness is strength under control. It reflects humility and care in how we treat others. God is not just a God of truth, but also gentle grace. The Holy Spirit softens our approach so that we can share and be examples of the Truth of God with grace and compassion. Scripture says it is the kindness of God that leads us to repentance. God is kind and gentle, He is a gentleman. And yet He is also worthy of your praise.

REFLECTION QUESTION

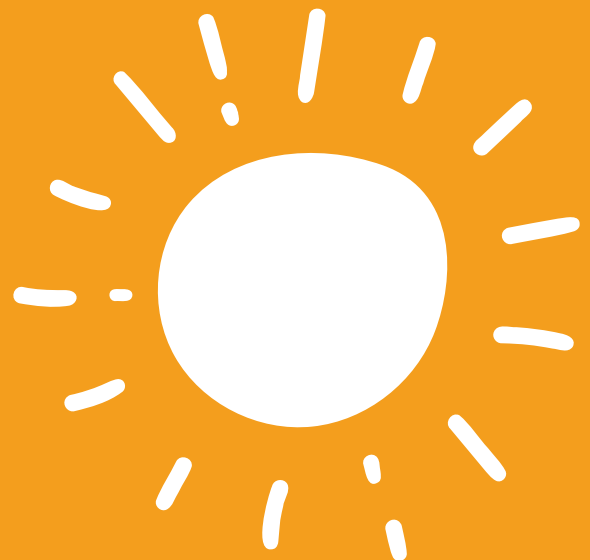
How can I respond with gentleness instead of reacting with force or frustration toward God and those close to me today?

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GALATIANS 5:22-23***



***“LET US NOT BECOME
CONCEITED, PROVOKING
AND ENVYING EACH
OTHER.”***

GALATIANS 5:26



WEEK 9

SELF-CONTROL

**“FOR GOD HAS NOT GIVEN US
A SPIRIT OF FEAR AND
TIMIDITY, BUT OF POWER,
LOVE, AND SELF-DISCIPLINE.”
2 TIMOTHY 1:7**

DEVOTIONAL

Self-control is the Spirit's power enabling us to be disciplined toward what matters most. We are not left to our own devices when needing to say “no” to sin and “yes” to God's will. It's not willpower, but Holy Spirit empowered discipline that helps us make godly choices in every area of life. How kind of God to offer you self-discipline so that you can stay connected to Him, instead of living crippled by fear?

REFLECTION QUESTION

In what area of my life do I most need to invite the Holy Spirit to help me practice self-control? How can I surrender my own will in order to pick up the strength of God?

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