

**What is  
the Fruit  
of the  
Spirit?**

# BUILDING BLOCKS

**The Spirit's  
Fruit:  
JOY**

**Part 3**

In **John 15:5**, Jesus taught this foundational truth:

"I am the \_\_\_\_\_; you are the \_\_\_\_\_.  
Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that  
bears much \_\_\_\_\_..."

What **sort** of fruit?

The fruit of the Spirit is love, \_\_\_\_\_... (Gal 5:22)

What is this **JOY**? Keeping a positive attitude because  
we \_\_\_\_\_ God loves us. Where can we learn more?

Paul's letter to the Philippians is a great resource:

And it is my prayer that your love may abound  
more and more, with knowledge and all  
discernment, so that you may approve what is  
excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the  
day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness  
that comes \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ, to the  
glory and praise of God. (Phil 1:9-11)

Have this mind among yourselves,  
which is yours \_\_\_\_\_ Christ  
Jesus... (Phil 2:5)

Finally, my brothers, rejoice \_\_\_\_\_  
the Lord. (Phil 3:1)

Rejoice \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord always; again I will say,  
rejoice. (Phil 4:4)

Or, as Paul put it in **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks  
\_\_\_\_\_ all circumstances; for this is the will of God  
\_\_\_\_\_ Christ Jesus for you.

When we walk by the Spirit, connected to Jesus, we'll  
bear the fruit of **joy** because we **know** God loves us.

## For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ Does this **joy** we're talking about always come **naturally** to us? If not, why not? What might be getting in the way?
- ▶ "Happiness" is often described as if it depends on whether or not we like what's happening around and to us. How is the mindset revealed in **Habakkuk 3:17-18** very different? How is it *better*?
- ▶ Can you think of other examples of men or women in the Bible who kept a positive attitude because they **knew** God loved them?
- ▶ How does the description of Jesus and what he did in **Hebrews 12:1-2** help us understand what **joy** really is? What are we being called to do as we follow in his footsteps?
- ▶ How does "walking by" the Spirit (**Gal 5:16**), following the "lead" of the Spirit (**Gal 5:18**), "keeping in step" with the Spirit (**Gal 5:25**) and "sowing to" the Spirit (**Gal 6:8**) produce the fruit of **joy**?

