

What is the Fruit of the Spirit?

BUILDING BLOCKS

The Spirit's Fruit: FAITHFULNESS & GENTLENESS

Part 7

In **John 15:5**, Jesus taught, "I am the **vine**; 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, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, **faithfulness, gentleness...**

(Gal 5:22-23)

First up, **FAITHFULNESS**. Over and over again we are told, **God is faithful...**

...by whom you were called into the _____ of his Son... (1 Cor 1:9)

...and he will not let you be _____ beyond your ability... (1 Cor 10:13)

...and just to _____ us our sins... (1 John 1:9)

What's the **fruit** of **FAITHFULNESS**? It's letting our _____ in God lead us to _____ (Matt 25:21).

But the Spirit's fruit is also **GENTLENESS**. Listen to Jesus' invitation and description of himself:

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am _____ and _____ in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matt 11:28-29)

When we walk by the Spirit, connected to Jesus, we'll **learn** what **good** things please God and do them. We'll let our **trust** in God lead us to **obey** him. And we'll "walk in a manner worthy of the calling" to which we have been called "with all humility and gentleness" (Eph 4:1-3). What is **gentleness**? Let's talk about it together...



For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ When you think **gentleness**, what comes to your mind?
- ▶ What does Jesus mean when he describes himself as "gentle and lowly"? Why is that *really* good news?
- ▶ **Ephesians 4:1-3** calls us to bear the fruit of **gentleness**. What does **gentleness** have to do with being "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace"?
- ▶ When you hear the often repeated phrase, "God is faithful," what comes to mind? What does it mean?
- ▶ In everyday practical terms, what does it look like for human beings to be **faithful**?
- ▶ What does our trust in God have to do with obedience?
- ▶ 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 **faithfulness**?