

HELP: We need it. God gives it.

Getting to Know the Holy Spirit

HELP: I Want to Be Good! Gal. 5:13- 25

We struggle to live Godly lives: To be like Jesus and to love each other. Why isn't this working better?

“God loves us exactly the way we are, and God loves us too much to let us stay like this”

--Old ways die hard

¹⁹The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and 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.

- 1. Adopting a self-centered life-style**
- 2. Operating by misguided religious assumptions**
- 3. Deliberately fragmenting society**
- 4. Choosing an inappropriate life-purpose**

--BUT the Spirit forms us into a different pattern

¹⁶So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

- 1. The Spirit breaks the desires of the “*sinful nature/flesh*”**
- 2. The Spirit reshapes us into the image of Christ.**
- 3. The Spirit produces “*fruit*” in our lives**
²²... The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

In the God realm: Love, Joy, Peace

In the People realm: Patience Kindness Goodness

**In the Personal realm: Faithfulness, Gentleness,
Self-control**

--Further Observations:

Fruit is one package

The list is not sequential

But there is progression. *Fruit grows*.

How can I cultivate the fruit of the Spirit?

²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit

- 1. Say “*NO!*” to the old way: decisively, deliberately, constantly**
- 2. Get in step with the Spirit (5: 25)**
- 3. Sow to please the Spirit (6: 8)**

God Guarantees the Harvest!