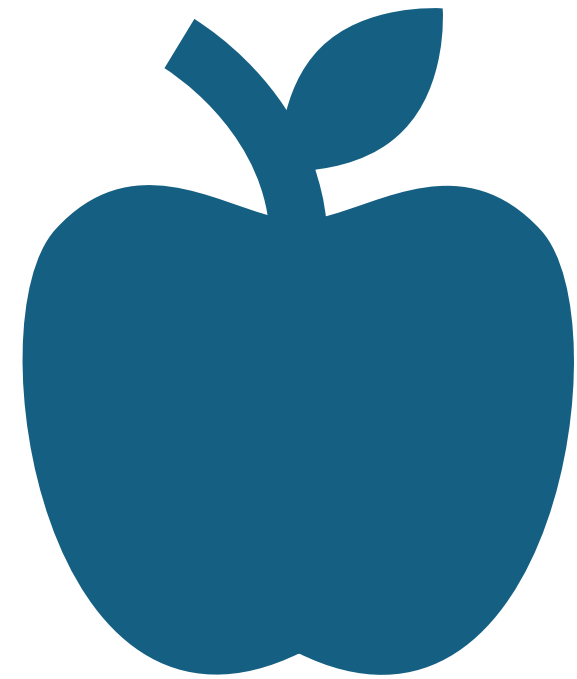


Galatians 5:16-26

Fruit of the Spirit



I. The Desire of the Sinful Flesh Fights Against the Desire of the Holy Spirit vv. 16-18.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

I. The Desire of the Sinful Flesh Fights Against the Desire of the Holy Spirit vv. 16-18.

A. Galatians 5:16-18 contrasts what the Spirit produces & what the desires of the flesh produces.

B. The Spirit is trying to keep us in the sweet spot, between embracing the Old Testament law on one hand & living in sin on the other.

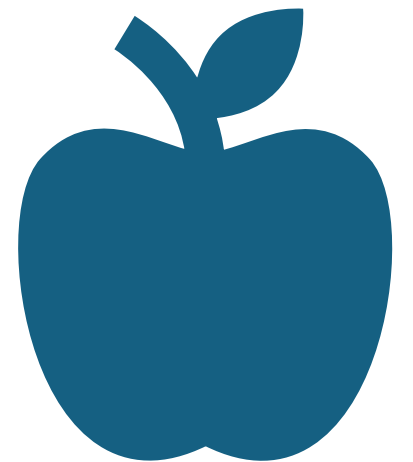
C. Walking in the Spirit is the sweet spot!

II. The Desires of the Sinful Flesh Produces Every Kind of Unrighteousness vv. 19-21.

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

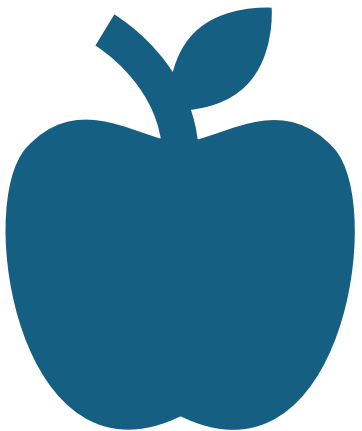
II. The Desires of the Sinful Flesh Produces Every Kind of Unrighteousness vv. 19-21.

- A. The seed that produces every kind of unrighteousness is rebellion against God.
- B. Sin dishonors God & brings ruin into our lives
 - i. Sexual sin complicates our lives.
 - ii. Sin against God creates hostility.
 - iii. Social sin separates friends.



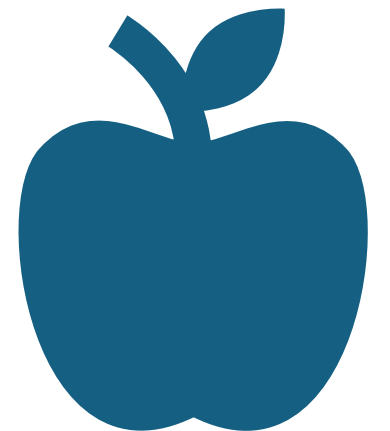
III. The Desire of the Spirit is to Produce in Us Every Kind of Righteousness vv. 22-23.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



III. The Desire of the Spirit is to Produce in Us Every Kind of Righteousness vv. 22-23.

- A. The Holy Spirit in us plants the seed of glad obedience to God.
- B. The Holy Spirit in us produces behavior and attitudes in us that glorify God and bring blessings into our life.



IV. To Maximize the Fruit of the Spirit in us We Must Kill the Desires of the Flesh vv. 24-26.

²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the flesh** with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

IV. To Maximize the Fruit of the Spirit in us We Must Kill the Desires of the Flesh vv. 24-26.

- A. We can kill the weeds of the sinful flesh by reading Scripture, praying, listening to mature brothers and sisters in Christ, and by serving God and others.
- B. Like a weed, sin seeks to steal life from the fruit that God produces in your life.