Fruit of the Spirit

Lesson 1: Wednesday March 16th, 2022

Steven Obert

**TEACHING NOTES**

**Fruit of the Spirit: Love**

# Welcome:

Good evening church. This year’s midweek series began with Spiritual Disciplines. We hoped that we could help give you a greater understanding and application of these disciplines and how to carry them out in our day to day life. We finished the Spiritual Disciplines a few weeks ago and are now moving into the Fruit of the Spirit. The 9 lessons we have lined up will carry us to our summer break so tonight I am kicking off that series. Each week we are going to look a different characteristic listed in the Fruit of the Spirit. I hope these midweek lessons have been as helpful to you as they have been for me. I am confident that this series will continue to give you useful tools in your sanctification and growth.

Let’s pray and we’ll jump in.

**Introduction:**

Since I am kicking off the series I have a bit of a long introduction to help you understand what the Fruit of the Spirit is and what the context of the passages in Galatians were about before we consider how to apply this fruit. Because I have a desire to help you know the context I am going to cover a good amount of Galatians chapter 5. If you have your bibles you can open then to Galatians chapter 5 and follow along. Most of the passages are found in your hand out notes though. I also want you to consider God’s aim through Paul for our hearts in regards to the fruit of the Spirit. With that being said buckle up for some context and some high altitude overview of the Galatians for these various context points.

Paul writes the letter to the church in Galatia as a real rebuke of false teachings that the church had appeared to be adopting and accepting. Paul uses such strong language as who has bewitched you. So it seem very much like the church had accepted something false and was in turn teaching that same false truth to those among them.

So what was that false truth? It was the claim that faith in Jesus alone was insufficient for salvation. Rather you needed faith plus circumcision. It was adding of the old covenant law of circumcision to the true law of God that eternal salvation was only and always only through faith alone. Even the Old Covenant law of circumcision never provided eternal salvation. So Paul is railing against this idea that you need to add to Christ for true salvation. Paul is so heated about this false doctrine that in this very chapter he declares that He wished those who had been teaching this would emasculate themselves. Some of the strongest language in all of scripture church.

So Paul declares that if you think the law will save in any way you must then be saved by perfect obedience to all the law. Now to be clear Paul was not teaching that perfect obedience was attainable or truly provided salvation, rather he was stating that if you think you can earn it you must see that it would be totally dependent upon you earing it and you would be subject to the whole law which is contrary to the gospel of grace. Therefore if you chose this false teaching then you are doomed and enslaved to the entire law which cannot save you.

This is vitally important as Paul turns the page in the passage we just read. If obedience to the law does not save us, if it is truly just salvation through faith in Jesus then how are people to obey and honor God? Where does this ideology of obedience producing salvation even come from? Well it comes from a false view of the flesh. The old self that we as Christians are doing real battle with until the Lord calls us home is always trying to find it’s own way to salvation and therefore some way to retake the throne from God as if that were even possible. See Paul show this clarity in the verse of walking by the Spirit verses gratifying the desires of the flesh. The flesh desires to be its own lord and if the flesh could do anything to bring it’s own salvation it would not need Christ. Therefore the flesh adds to the means of salvation in any way necessary to take some credit and be its own sovereign. Church this simply doesn’t work and praise God it doesn’t. I love the grace of Christ Jesus my Lord so much so that I am thankful the flesh could not deliver me or I would never know such grace and love as I know in Christ. Paul contrasts walking by the flesh and what it produces with walking by the Spirit and the Fruit the Spirit produces.

**Gal. 5:19-26 19Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21envy,d 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. 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. 26Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.**

Church see what the flesh produces and never fall for the temptation that you can earn salvation or sit on the throne of Christ. There is no need and no room for us there. We are saved all by grace church. Paul declared earlier in this chapter:

**Gal. 5:5-6 5For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. 6For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.**

Our hope of righteousness if only through faith and this faith is a work of God done to us through the Holy Spirit. So do not fall into any temptation of earning salvation, this is a fruit of the flesh not of the Spirit and it leads to destruction church. Rather see that no work of the flesh is a part of faith, our only ability to live properly is this; In Christ Jesus we work by faith through love. That happens by walking in the Spirit who produces His fruit in us whom He has saved. This is the whole point. Paul even doubles down on this by stating in verses:

**Gal. 5:13-14 13For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”**

The command of Christ Jesus upon us His redeemed is obedience to His commands. Jesus declared that if you love Him you’ll obey His commands. For clarities sake what Paul is saying here is that we only obey Christ’s commands by faith and that faith working in us love for others and love for Christ. Apart from faith in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior you can do nothing. All attempts apart from faith are of the flesh and are displeasing to God so much so that God calls even the most righteous of those deed polluted bloody garments. This is why Paul uses such harsh language to those false teachers.

So see clearly church the fruit of the Spirit should be a joy for us to pray for, to long for, and to truly see increasing in all genuine believers as the Spirit of God goes to work in us. They are contrary to the desires of our flesh and earning something on our own. Our obedience is utterly dependent upon faith and that faith that is genuine produces love, first for Christ Jesus as Lord which causes us to obey His commandments, secondly for others as part of God’s eternal law placed upon us and now in the Spirit we are actually able to love God and others as God commands. Apart from faith none of this is possible church.

So do not see these lessons as a way unto salvation, you don’t want obedience to equal salvation because it can never be achieved that way and you will be enslaved to the whole law. Rather see these characteristics of the Spirits fruit in us as the beautiful work of God to grow us into conformity to Christ for whatever number of days He blesses us with here and now. As we study these characteristics or fruit, remember it is the Spirits work in us and be thankful for it!

**Gal. 5:22-23 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.**

The Fruit of the Spirit is…. Right off the bat you need to see what scripture so clearly declares. The fruit of the Spirit that we will be looking at is all encompassing of these various characteristics.

What I mean is that the fruit of the Spirit cannot be divided up into these different characteristics and taken on an individual case without seeing that they all must be at work and growing in the believer. A true Christian has the Spirit of God dwelling within them, this means that God the Holy Spirit will be producing a maturity and this maturity will increase with the fruit of the Spirit. If someone professes faith and says I have the fruit of the Spirit to prove their faith genuine but they really mean they are good at being patient and nothing else on this list then they are fooling themselves.

The fruit of the Spirit is not patience alone, it is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. To say you are good with only growing in one aspect of this all-encompassing fruit of the Spirit is to not be lined up with scripture and God’s truth. The fruit of the Spirit is all of these particular characteristics being played out in a genuine believer’s sanctification. You do not get to say I am growing here but I am declining over there. That would be a miss-application of the fruit at best. So see that we should be looking for and striving to grow in all of these things since they are all The Fruit of the Spirit.

Another quick way to say this is the Fruit of the Spirit is singular. The passage does not say fruits of the Spirit. The fruit that the Spirit produces in us is all of these characteristics or it is not the singular fruit as the passage declares. For clarities sake some of us will grow in various aspects of this fruit faster than other aspects, I do not think the passage declares growth will happen evenly in all of these parts, but the passage is clear that all of these are the singular fruit of the Spirit and therefore all of us who claim Christ must be maturing in all of these individual characteristics to be truly growing in the Fruit of the Spirit.

And that was just the introduction church! Praise God for His good word to us, for our freedom in Christ, and for the work of God through His Spirit in us. With that let us turn now to LOVE!

**LOVE:**

The first of the fruit mentioned in our passage is love. This makes sense in light of the context of our passage and the way Love encompasses the moral law of God. Jesus summed up the moral law of God as this:

**Matt. 22:37-40 37And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38This is the great and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”**

Church if God’s moral law given to man is born out of His character, the attributes of God, then we must grasp the importance of God’s command for us and the beauty of the fruit of the Spirit. God never changes church, if these laws are from God’s attributes then the same God who works in us produces the fruit needed to obey these commands and as we are sanctified in this life we become ever more obedient through the fruit God produces in us. All of that really begins with love. In fact faith begins with God’s love.

**Ephesians 1:3-10 3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. *In love* 5he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.**

Christian, you were predestined and elected to salvation through God’s love for you in which He lavishes us with His grace giving us every spiritual gift in the heavenly places all for His glory all through the work of Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior. If you cannot see how love is the beginning of all of this then you miss it Christian. In love He predestined us, for those who do not like the predestination and election of God they will also miss the unmerited love of God toward us. God did not see us in some future state and therefore love us. Rather before we were, before we had done anything good or bad in order that God may be sovereign in choosing a people and electing them to salvation and adoption God chose to love you.

This must be the case church. If God loved you for something in you then that love could change but God does not change. This is why He has chosen prior to our acts based solely on His own will. Why does God love one and not the other? Because in His perfect sovereign and holy will He chose to do such. Praise God church. If God has saved you Christian it is because of His unchanging love that He decided to place upon you based only in Himself and therefore you can never fail enough to cause Him to stop loving you. This brings me to tears church. In all the way I fail in all the ways I am fickle in all the ways the flesh of my old self wins the battles in my mind and life the love of God will not and cannot fail! His love was not given to me because of me, praise God because I would fail and have failed so miserably that God would have been foolish to base His love in anything lesser than Himself.

In doing it this way I hope you see the beauty of the love of God. His love for us is based in Himself and His unchanging character. Therefore we cannot lose the love of God. We want God’s love to be done this way church. We cannot bear the weight of love if it based upon us. Even more so church God declares that love is selfless. True love is not based in one’s self and what they receive from the objects they love.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8b & 13 4Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8Love never ends….**

**13So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.**

In this passage we see that love must not be based in selfishness. If it is then none of these attributes of love would ever be produced. Love is patient and kind, it is not envious boastful arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way, it is selfless. It always rejoices in truth church if the world’s definition of love claims love for anything God calls wicked it is not love because it is not rejoicing in truth. Love endures all things why because it is not based in things but rather in the unchanging God. Love never ends why because God is eternal and God is love. The greatest of all these things even greater than faith and hope is love.

God’s love for His own glory and for those whom He chose to save before the foundations of the world is the very reason we are saved and the very reason God the Son entered into time and took on flesh to die in our place.

Without love faith would not exist. Without love hope would not exists church. All of this comes from love and love, true love, comes from God.

Consider those whom you love the most after God. How many times have they failed or hurt you in their sin? If your love for them is based in them and not in God then when they fail it is an attack against your love for them. You will lose love for them because of this. Don’t believe me? How rampant is divorce in our society church? Do you think these marriages didn’t claim a love for each other before they ended in divorce? Of course they did church. The problem is the love they claimed was not rooted and grounded in God and therefore they were not able to overlook the offense. When they were wronged they kept a record and every time that record got longer that love originally claimed got lesser until finally they split.

This is not the way God loves us and it is not true love. Think about this, if God loved us this way then would any of us have any amount of God’s love left for us? How unfaithful Christian have you been to God? Every time we sin we are unfaithful, therefore if God can love us when we are unfaithful how much more would the true love of God in us produce a love that is not based upon those whom we love? Church this is the world’s view of love and it is completely insufficient according to God. That’s why we can truly and easily say that if you define love from any other point of view that is contrary to God’s word which is truth, then it is not love.

Faith and love go hand in hand church. You cannot have faith in God without a love for God. You cannot have love for God without faith in Him. When God the Holy Spirit gives you a new heart and God grants you faith in Christ Jesus it is a new heart that loves and believes. These are hand in hand. But scripture is clear that this only happened because God loved us first.

Pastor Josh is about to get into this section of 1 John chapter 4 and I am confident that Josh will unpack it clearly for us so I simply want to read a larger section of the chapter and give some brief 10,000 foot views in regards to love tonight from it.

**1 John 4:7-21** **7Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.**

**13By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. 18There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19We love because he first loved us. 20If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.**

Church we love because God loved us and saved us from our sin through His costly sacrifice of His Son. We must love others or what we will prove is that the love of God was never truly in us. I hope you see the weight of love in the clarity of this passage. I hope you see the beauty of the love that God Himself produces in us through God the Holy Spirit dwelling in us and producing this as a part of the fruit He produces in us.

Praise God for His great love church.

Now that we see where love comes from and why we are even able to love let’s look to the practical ways that we are commanded to love others.

Because God is love and therefore He defines what love truly is then we or others use the term love we must use it properly. When anyone uses the term love they are speaking about something that comes forth from God’s character. All people must be careful to know what love is and to use the term properly, otherwise we are claiming that God is lesser than he declares to be when He declares to be love. Church this is why it is so offensive when the world claims love for itself and does so in ways that are utterly contrary to God’s truth as found in scripture. When the world uses a phrase like “love is love,” as an argument to indulge in things that God calls an abomination they have hijacked the word love and lied about God in the process. It should be offensive to us, it should leave a sour taste in our mouth. It is not love, no matter how bad or how much the world uses the word love, when it is placed in lies and dishonors God who is love, it is NOT LOVE!

Now we may be righteously angry at this abuse of such a beautiful attribute of God, and we can still love those who are our enemies because our love, true love, is based in God and is unchanging. We love our enemies because God loved us when we were His enemies.

You see for the Christian our love for those closest to us and furthest away from us is based upon God’s unchanging love for us. This is why our love should not be changed by either enemy or friend.

We are permitted to stop loving others when God stops loving us church. We are permitted to stop loving those who offend us when God stops loving us for the more grievous and constant offenses we commit against Him. You see church if our love is rooted and grounded in God and God’s love for us, then our love never changes either. This is why we love our enemies, it may be perhaps that those enemies will one day be saved by God and prove that we were truly loving His elect even though they were at one time our enemy and God’s enemy as you and I once were. We love our enemy because it shows those who remain in sin and flesh, our enemy, that true love is only attainable in God and this hurls heaping coals upon their head church. You Christian are free in Christ to love without measure because His love for you is unmeasurable. This is only done when we walk in the Spirit and do not give in to the flesh that is at war against us!

So let me say this in an even more practical way for all of you, if you are parents, married, single, youth, whatever walk of life you are in consider those whom you claim to love and ask yourself this question. When those whom I claim to love offend me or act in ways toward me that are hurtful do I lose the depth of my love for them? If you do then your love for them is based in what they give you. This does not mean there is no frustration in relationships where sin is having its way in one or both parties, however the reason we are not robbed of joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and yes even self-control is because we rightly love that person. Our love for them is rooted in God’s unchanging character and love for us. Therefore when they sin against us and they will, like we will sin against them right, we do not set these other things aside. When we do lose our self-control it is because our love is not ruling the pack in the fruit that the Spirit produces in us.

For example, you and you alone are responsible for your own sin. You will not be able to say to God when called to account for your sin that you did it because they (whoever that is) sinned against you. You are responsible for your own sin. No one can make you sin. They can try and lead you to sin, however you are never given an excuse to sin because others are sinning. This is what self-control looks like. Why do you exercise self-control because you love God and you long to obey His commandments? How do you exercise self-control by rooting your love for others in God who does not change? Therefore when you are offended and tempted to lose your self-control you need to remind yourself that your love for the offender is not rooted in them but in God. When you do this you will remember the gospel realities of God loving you and saving you when you were His enemy and therefore out of that love you will act in a way that is self-controlled.

How do you keep your joy in the most horrific of circumstances? Because you love God and know the love God has for you that is not changed by horrific circumstances. You may experience great pain, great darkness in your heart, but you will cling to the joy you have of your salvation in God. This is all because of love that is produced in us by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

This is how the love of God changes us. As we understand God’s love and God’s character the love we have first and foremost for God produces in us a confidence in all things. Think back to our 1 Corinthians passage:

**1 Cor. 13:7-8a** **7Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8Love never ends**

Love bears all things, sounds like patience and endurance and self-control. Love believes all things, meaning all the truths of God are believed by us in our love for Him which came only from His first loving us, sounds like joy in all circumstances. Love hopes all things. Until this life is over Christian your hope is rooted in God’s unchanging love for you and His ability and desire to fulfill all the promises He secured for those whom he loved in Christ Jesus. Sounds like hope. Love endures all things, why? Because God’s love for us is never changing. Therefore all of our failures are endured by God’s love for us. And therefore when we claim to love others our love for them never changes because it’s rooted in our unchanging God so it endures all things, sounds like patience church. Love never fails. Why because God never fails and God is love. Therefore true love endures until the end it never fails as God endures until the end for us and in us and we cannot fail to attain all that God has promised to those whom He loves because God never fails!

Another practical way of understanding love properly is applied to marriage. Husbands and wives are to love one another truly. This means that our love does not fade when our spouses fail. It does not fade because God’s love for us does not fade. Do you love your spouse because of some attribute in them? Then you don’t love them, that’s not true love. For you to truly love them you must them because of your love for God. Oh husband, Oh wife, you can certainly cherish the attributes of your spouse as this is good and right, but to love them you must have that love grounded in your love for God or it is not truly love.

Think about this those of you who are married, how sweet would your marriage be if it was filled with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control? Imagine your marriage filled with truth hope faith and endurance.

I cannot imagine a scenario where a marriage filled with the Fruit of the Spirit does not flourish and honor God.

However it seems more often that marriages are filled with envy, boastfulness, selfishness, rudeness, irritableness, resentfulness, a hoping for the other to hurt, a lack of endurance, a lack of hope, and a tendency toward failure with desires to end it.

You have to see if these attributes are more present than the previous that your marriage does not honor God for it does not rightly reflect the gospel realities of God and the marriage of the lamb to His beloved for whom He died.

This is why it’s vital that we get love right church. Love rooted and grounded in God endures. It believes it hopes it is gentle and self-controlled, it seeks the good of the other over its own desires. Why because Christ Jesus did this for us whom He has saved. Our love is rooted in gospel realities church. Without the gospel we could not be saved and could not know love.

This does not mean its easy Christian. I am not sharing these truths as if I have made it or fit all of these characteristics perfectly because I haven’t and none of us will this side of glory. However we all who have been saved by God will most certainly be changed by God and growing in the Fruit of the Spirit of God who dwells within us.

Let’s bring it full circle back to our original text in Galatians chapter 5.

**Galatians 5:16-24 16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17For 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. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21envy, 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. 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.**

Notice something here, the passage that reveals the work of the Spirit in us is bookended with a command and a warning. First the command is for us to walk in the Spirit and by so doing we will not gratify the flesh. The warning at the end is that all those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified or put to death the flesh with its passions and desires.

Pastor Josh recently preached a sermon where he spoke about tress and the fruit they produce. Good trees cannot produce bad fruit, bad trees cannot produce good fruit. Church when someone claims to love but they are not saved it is not truly love. It is some lesser meaning defined by the world and rooted in something fallible and fading. When we claim to belong to Christ we must be walking by the Spirit and seeing growth in the Fruit of the Spirit or we are simply fooling ourselves to claim Christ.

This all begins with love. It begins with God’s eternal love for us whom He has chosen to save and redeem. His love then becomes in us as we are made new and given faith a return of love for Him. We love because He loved us first. Then as the Spirit grows His fruit in us we extend that love out to our neighbors and even our enemies. We do this because our love is rooted in God who is unchanging. Did I make that part clear enough? For love to be true to be what God calls love and therefore truth, it must be rooted and grounded in God and His unchanging character and love for us. If it is based in anything else it is not a fruit of the Spirit of God and therefore it is not truly love.

It is good and right to know ourselves and examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith. So consider this, is the fruit being produced in your life lining up more with the fruit of the flesh or the fruit of the Spirit? Let me read them both out to you from the passage in Galatians:

**Flesh:**

Sexual immorality

Impurity

Sensuality

Idolatry

Sorcery

Enmity

Strife

Jealousy

Fits of anger

Rivalries

Dissension

Division

Envy

Drunkenness

Orgies

**Spirit:**

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-Control

Which of these are being produced in your life? The fruit reflects the tree. If you are struggling then my prayer for you is that you would turn to God, plead for faith and or repentance of sin and take up walking by the Spirit perhaps even for the first time. The life filled with the Spirits fruit is far sweeter than the deceitful life of the flesh that promises joys untold but leaves you dead in the end and empty.

**Conclusion:**

The fruit of the Spirit is a work of God in our hearts. We are called or commanded to walk by the Spirit so we must strive to put off the desires of the flesh and crucify them as we strive to walk by the Spirit. It is hard and tough work Christian but the fruit is so worth it. First and foremost it is worth it because it honors God whom we love right? Secondly it really creates in our lives a beautiful picture even in the worst of circumstances.

Love church is the first of the fruit because it is where we begin and the grounding of all other parts of the fruit of the Spirit. Have you found yourself lacking love lately? Then turn to God and be reminded of His love for you. If you have been saved God loves you in an unchangeable and unmeasurable way.

Even taking on a human nature God the Son gave that nature over to suffering and death and bearing on Himself the wrath we deserve because of the great love with which He loved us. Let these truths stir you to a renewed love for God and for others Christian. Let it remind you what love truly is and where it truly comes from and watch the Spirit of God go to work in and through you.

Pray with me.