

## **Galatians 5:22**

(**KJV** = *King James version*) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

(**BBE** = *Bible in Basic English*) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, a quiet mind, kind acts, well-doing, faith,

(**CEV** = *Contemporary English Version*) God's Spirit makes us loving, happy, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful,

(**GNB** = *Good news Bible*) But the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

(**GW** = *God's Word*) But the spiritual nature produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

(**WNT** = *Wymouth new Testament*) The Spirit, on the other hand, brings a harvest of love, joy, peace; patience towards others, kindness, benevolence;

You know, it is sometimes good to take just one scripture and read different translations of it; which is easy when you have a computer with a Bible on it. One thing I have always strive for is to ensure that the above fruits of the Spirit are in my life. These attitudes in our life will be the biggest thing that a non Christian will see in our life. I have underlined different words used in different translations, ponder over them for a while.

We need to remember that is God's Spirit that produces these things and the closer we get to God the more we will see (and others as well) these fruits evident in our lives. So how do we get closer to God? There are many ways, fellowshiping with other Christians throughout the week, not just your family, sitting around a cup of coffee sharing the word, listening to praise and worship CD's or tapes daily, reading the word daily, and the main one is talking to our heavenly Father regularly.

Many people go to church on a Sunday and that is all their "Christian" life consists of. I know people who go out and help others practically by praying for them when they are sick instead of waiting until Sunday to go to church. How about in the parking lot or on the road offering right away in peak our traffic and allowing one or two cars into the line-up from a side street, If you know someone who is struggling financially, go and visit them taking with you coffee biscuits and milk without even asking, there are many things we can do for others and this shows goodness.

Be patient with people that we don't get along with for whatever reason whether it be a personality problem or ignorance on our part. Love people for who they are not what they can give you, or do for you. Actually this Love of God is called "Agape" which means unconditional! How much Joy do we have in our life at work, at home with our family or friends, are we able to lift someone up when they are down with a bit of our Joy.

Peace - wow, in a time like now with all the world warring at each other, neighbours at war, family at war for whatever reason, can we produce the fruit of peace in a situation, do we have peace within ourselves for that matter? The peace of God that passes all understanding.

**Phi 4:7** *And the peace of God which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

**Col 3:15** *And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which you also are called in one body, and be thankful.*

I truly believe the world out there is searching for peace of mind, peace of heart, we have the answer! But while we are backbiting, accusing, arguing, and offended - there is no peace that the world can see. I know of Christian bike clubs previously that would argue over wearing patches or who can do what, I know of churches arguing over sheep stealing or being a cult, honestly I think God is big enough to handle his church which is his body anyway, we all do different things different ways everyone to their own I say!

Whether you are Pentecostal, word of faith, COC, AOG Catholic, Presbyterian or Baptist, we are all one body! I went for a ride the other day up the highway and I noticed that other jap bike riders will give you a nod or wave as they pass by, but not a Harley rider, they are both motorbikes just like the church is the church regardless of what make or model it is. Be good to one another, be faithful to your Pastor or church or home group and your Boss at work.

The saddest thing I found being a Pastor for a short period at my previous church was that the same people would go to the prayer line for the same trivial problem over and over and over and over again. We have Holy Spirit power within us, everyone of you have! Get your brother or sister in the Lord to pray for you, they have more time than your pastor on a prayer line, and hopefully they are your friend and care too just to maybe sit and talk.

Faith - some think faith is a far fetched thing that is “unattainable”, let me give you the meaning of the word - to trust and rely upon God and that his word is true. That’s it! Personally I don’t believe there are such things as great preachers of faith, but there are greatly anointed preachers because they have faith, they simply trust God in the little things, so he uses them in bigger things. How much of the fruits of the Spirit are in your life, I know there are a few things I need to work on, and the only way I can build that up is by spending time with God, not just at church but during the week too, believe me I am not perfect, but in Christ I am sanctified, justified and set apart. I am his child, I am saved, but just like we grow from babies through to adults, so too we grow in the things of God depending on how much we want to eat and drink what he has for us, how much we sit in his classroom listening to him and obeying him, bless ya all and **Stay Upright - Roscoe**.