

HOW to bear fruit of God's Spirit



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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

KEY WORDS: *Fruit, fruit of the spirit, Gal. 5:22-23, Acts 2, bearing fruit, John 15.*

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Summary: *You know of the fruit of God's spirit. Today's focus is on HOW we gain the fruit of God's indwelling Holy Spirit. We also discuss what IS the Holy Spirit.*

One of my favorite meals is – FRUIT salad. I love fruit. Apparently, God does too. Adam, meaning “red dirt” (similar to Edom), was created from the *adama* – the ground/dirt/earth. He was created outside the garden and then brought into it. Whenever we read “man” in Gen 2, the Hebrew is Adam.

Genesis 2:7

And YHVH God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

Our Creator God did not breathe into the nostrils of any other creature. What God did here was give him the “spirit in man” – not the HOLY spirit, but a spirit in man that marks mankind as different than animals. We have a MIND. They do not. (In my site's Search bar, just type “Spirit in man” for the sermon on that topic.) He was of the earth, earthy. Then God showed him around the garden all the fruit trees of the garden and invited him to enjoy the FRUIT of ALL the trees – except one.

Genesis 2:8-9

YHVH God planted a garden eastward in Eden, *and there He put the man* whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground YHVH Elohim made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:15-17

Then the LORD God took the man and *put him in the garden* of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And YHVH God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

You know the rest of that story. Eve explained to the serpent – Satan – that they could eat of the fruit of the trees except one. Satan questioned that... and the rest is history.

You've all heard of God's holy spirit - and of the FRUIT of the Spirit. I want today to focus on THAT fruit, of THAT spirit, and why it's so important that we bear that fruit, and HOW that comes about.

It happened on Pentecost, one of God's feast days – his moed, or moedim - divine appointments. **Pentecost means “50”** (not “count 50” as I had been taught before). It comes 50 days from *the weekly sabbath* that falls after Passover during the days of Unleavened Bread. This holyday is also called “**Feast of firstfruits**” – referring to the early WHEAT harvest. WE believers are the firstfruits of God's calling (James 1:18).

It's also called **Feast of WEEKS** – or **Shavuot**, meaning “weeks.” There were to be 7 weeks of sabbaths plus 1 day, so TRUE Pentecost will always fall on a Sunday, for they were to count to the day AFTER the sabbath.

Pentecost is a lot about the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit there is no begettal into the family of God. Without the Holy Spirit there is no understanding of scripture, nor is there any power and strength to fully obey God without Holy Spirit. Neither can we be LED by God without it. And so much more. I have a sermon on “**22 Things the Holy Spirit does for us.**” Just enter into the search – “22 things”.

We should talk more often about God's holy spirit. The early church is said to have been FILLED with the spirit, and LED by the spirit.

Between Passover and Pentecost, Jesus told his disciples to stay in Jerusalem and wait, for they would be imbued with power.

Acts 1:4-5, 8

And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but **to wait for the Promise of the Father**, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; **5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized (immersed) with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.**"

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

So what happened on Pentecost?

Acts 2:1-4

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, **they were all with one accord in one place.** **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing **mighty wind**, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. **4** And **they were all FILLED with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, *as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

They were all acting unified, as ONE. God's people today often are not behaving and believing as one body. Sometimes we attack one another and divide. Being as one, and FILLED with the Holy Spirit -- is used OFTEN to describe God's people in the early church (Acts 4:8; 4:31; 9:17; 13:9, 52; Eph 5:18)

God's spirit bears fruit. That's my focus today. Man's nature bears WORKS of the flesh. The fruit of our flesh is ugly stuff. Fruit of God's spirit is actually a description of what God is like – and he wants us being and looking more like him more and more.

Galatians 5:16-21

“I say then: **Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.** 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19 Now the **works of the flesh** are evident, which are: **adultery**, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, [debauchery, lustful pleasures] 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions [strife], jealousies, outbursts of wrath [rage], selfish ambitions, dissensions [divisions], heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries [wild parties; orgies], and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, **that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

The works of the flesh, of our carnal nature, are actions that lead to sin. But the fruit of the Spirit are attitudes that will lead to a happy and God-connected life and happy relationships without all the drama of works of flesh.

Galatians 5:22-26

“**But the FRUIT of the Spirit IS love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control.** Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

NOTE 2 things: The good fruit of God is the fruit of the SPIRIT, GOD'S spirit – not the fruit of Philip Shields or your fruit.

Also note it's not “FRUITS are” -- but “The FRUIT IS.” It's singular. Nine attributes are listed, but they make up ONE fruit. Not “fruits are.”

It's like an apple – it is one fruit. But it has a stem, skin, flesh, apple core, seeds, juice – but it's all one fruit. When we display the fruit of the Spirit – we should have them ALL, not just a few of them. **The list of the fruit of the spirit describes GOD.**

God is LOVE predominantly (1 John 4:8, 16). But God is also all these other qualities that are paired to his love. When we have God's love, we will also have his joy and peace and longsuffering patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The Fruit of the Spirit describes God.

One of the first BIG things to understand is that the fruit is the result of GOD'S work in you. It's the result, or fruit, of what GOD is doing in us.

I've heard many sermons and have given some too – where the focus was on how WE were to strive to become more loving, more joyful, more at peace and patient and so on. But that totally misses the point! If WE strive to be more

patient, then it's OUR fruit. But if we open the door to let God produce His fruit in us – then it's HIS fruit.

God produces His fruit in us, and we -- as branches of the tree or the vine – display, release and show God's fruit. **A fruit tree bears the evidence of its kind, it's nature.** It's the same way we recognize an apple tree: It is that tree over there has APPLES on it. No one glued or tacked apples on, by the way. They just came naturally, in season, from the tree. The branches just displayed them. Of course we LET God flow in us and fight sin, but the fruit is his.

The fruit just shows up on the branches, but only if the branches stay strongly attached to the tree or vine. The FRUIT, in other words, become the visible and natural extension of the very close union with the Vine or Tree.

I want to be super clear: We AREN'T the ones producing God's fruit. The Vine or Tree does that. The Fruit of the Spirit is the result of GOD living in us by His spirit. The fruit of God's spirit identifies us as being God's children – just as apples identify the tree as being an apple tree.

Fruit is for others. The tree doesn't eat the fruit – except the remains of some fruit that might fall near its base. Fruit is for others to pick, for deer to eat.

An apple tree will produce apples from INSIDE to the outside. They come from within because it's what an apple tree does. We're not like Christmas trees that are adorned outwardly, by someone's work. Fruit trees are not like that. A fruit tree simply produces its own produce of its own nature and kind.

But the FRUIT is not the result of hard work of the branch – but of the VINE, OF The ROOTS of the tree. Then in season the fruit develops, as Psalm 1 says.

*Sometimes we ministers have given **sermons about how WE have to work on producing** more love, more patience, more JOY, Peace, and kindness. **That's totally wrong-headed.***

*We have a part, but not that way. **WE don't work on being more kind. We work on something else. I'll show you as we go along.***

FRUIT from a tree begins with A SEED being planted. Think of it: when we believe in Christ, seed is sown or planted. Remember what Paul said: **I (Paul) planted, Apollos watered, but GOD gave the increase, or FRUIT (1 Cor. 3:4-5).** Let's get that. GOD produces the FRUIT of his spirit. Those planting and watering will receive a reward. So we should do our part to be sure seed is going into our lives and that we are "watering" that seed, giving it a healthy environment for growth. Paul explains that he and Apollos were one.

1 Corinthians 3:4-8

For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not carnal?

5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one?

6 **I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase [fruit].** 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, **but God who gives the**

increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

When first baptized, many of us wonder where the fruit is, but we need to give the seed of God's spirit time to grow, mature and bear fruit. If it's the seed of a fruit tree, it could take years for luscious, mature fruit to be borne. For others it is much quicker. But it's GOD doing the producing. We get out of His way. We fight sin, we open the door for Him to work – but the fruit is HIS.

Go back to Gal 5:16. If you “walk in the spirit, you won't be fulfilling the lusts and works of the flesh.” IF and WHEN we are acting out the works of the flesh, it's proof we're not staying close enough to God, or walking in the spirit.

Righteousness, and fruit of the Spirit, is evidence of our closeness to God and to Jesus Christ. **Now, WHAT and WHO is the “Spirit”** being discussed here? Is it the “3rd person of the trinity” or is it God himself working through the Spirit?

2 Corinthians 3:15-18

“But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16 Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, **beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as **by the Spirit of the Lord.**”

GOD'S SPIRIT

WHAT is God's spirit that is producing this fruit? I just read in 2 Cor 3:17 that “the LORD is the Spirit”.

It's the fruit of the spirit we are talking about. I think there's a lot of evidence that the “fruit of the spirit” is really the fruit of Jesus Christ and our FATHER working mightily in us – or not.

Notice v 18 of 2 Cor. 3 —we're being transformed to look just like HIM – BY God's spirit.

So who/what ABIDES, lives in us? GOD himself? Or something separate called the Holy Spirit? I believe the scripture evidence I am giving you will show you it is GOD living in us - - but *through* His Holy Spirit.

Notice the promise Jesus-Yeshua gave us all. He and our Father come take up residence in our lives!

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; **and My Father will love him, and WE will come to him and make Our home with him.**”

Well, which is it who comes to DWELL in us as their home – GOD, God, and Jesus – or the Holy spirit?

Scriptures on the HELPER, Comforter – “*parakletos*”

When Jesus/Yeshua said he would not leave them alone, but send the Comforter (or Helper, Counselor). That was the very essence of God; God's SPIRIT. It would be a “*parakletos*” – from Strong's #3875, meaning to comfort, encourage, exhort, giving aid. Was used for legal advisor and advocate. It was also used to refer to ships that came alongside a ship in distress, to aid and even take on passengers, to encourage and comfort.

But as best as I understand it, the Holy Spirit is the total and very essence of GOD – but NOT a separate God being or even the 3 in one, all co-equal. Even Yeshua is not of same authority as Father is. “**The head of Christ is God**” – **1 Cor. 11:3**. God communicates, leads, guides, teaches, defends us Himself – using his own Holy Spirit and nature. There are many spirits – but only ONE Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:4; 1 Cor. 12:13).

So when Holy Spirit speaks to us or those in the Bible – **it's really GOD** speaking to us through His Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit urges you to go somewhere, to do something, that is GOD doing it - -but through his spirit.

John 14:15-18

"If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that **He may abide with you forever** – 17 **the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphans; **I will come to you.**"

So it's God our Father and Jesus living in us BY the Spirit. The last scripture says the Spirit will abide in us and v 18 says Jesus will come to us. It's all the same.

John 14:25-26

"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. **26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name**, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

John 15:26

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

The reason I'm going through all this is this: I'm making the point that the FRUIT OF The Holy Spirit IS The FRUIT OF GOD HIMSELF. GOD dwells in us, BY his spirit. God communicates with us HIMSELF, by the Holy Spirit.

Are we the temple of GOD, or temple of his Holy Spirit? It's one and the same.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

“Do you not know that YOU are the temple of GOD and that the SPIRIT of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of GOD is holy, which temple you are.”

2 Corinthians 6:16

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? **For YOU are the temple of the living God.** As God has said:
"**I will dwell in them** and walk among them.
I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

So the point I'm making is that we're promised we are the housing, temple and dwelling of God himself. But then some scriptures refer to us as being the **temple of the Holy Spirit**, and that's fine too, as indicated here:

1 Corinthians 6:19

"Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of The HOLY SPIRIT** who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"

So it's both. GOD and Yeshua live in us BY their spirit. **So the FRUIT of the SPIRIT is really the FRUIT OF GOD living mightily in us. It's the evidence that Jesus Christ IS WORKING IN YOU.**

Remember again that 2 Cor. 3:17 says "the LORD is the Spirit."

THISTLES AND THORNBUSHES – OR A GOOD TREE AND FRUIT?

Now let's kick it up a few notches! In Matthew 7, Yeshua warns about false prophets/teachers – in SHEEP's clothing, not shepherd's clothing. Hmm. As we read this, remember the SUBJECT matter is false teachers.

Matthew 7:15-20

"**Beware of false prophets**, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them."

I'm going to say some things about thistles and thornbushes I've never said before, but I believe apply to bearing fruit of God, the fruit of God's spirit.

I believe Jesus-Yeshua is saying the same thing here as we learned about Unleavened Bread during the days of Unleavened Bread.

- We cannot take leaven out of any already-leavened bread. We have to start over. We have to throw out all bread you have as there's no way to make it unleavened.
- So you bring in Christ. You bring in new bread that has never been leavened. The Unleavened Bread is not you, for we all STILL SIN, and are still leavened. So it's not picturing US not sinning anymore, but it pictures us taking in Christ's perfect life. Remember Unleavened Bread is before we even received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The 2 wave loaves raised up to God on– are 2 leavened loaves. They're called the FIRSTFRUITS. That refers to us. (Leviticus 23:17, 20)

So as there is "NONE good, no not one" – **Romans 3:10-12** --- this is my understanding of this passage in Matthew 7.

When called by God, all of us were thornbushes and thistles. We begged God to cleanse our past and give us HIS new seed, his new life, and his spirit. We asked him in essence if we could be “the planting of the LORD in righteousness.” HIS work. HIS planting.

Isaiah 61:2-3

“To proclaim the acceptable year of YHVH,
And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,
3 To console those who mourn in Zion,
To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
***That they may be called trees of righteousness,
The planting of YHVH, that He may be glorified.***”

The WAY we become a ‘GOOD TREE’ bearing good fruit – is to be a tree that is a tree “of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that HE may be glorified.”

GOD PROVIDES The FRUIT OF HIMSELF, The FRUIT of his spirit. HE is our righteousness.

A verse just SO misused is Philippians 2:12, a favorite of those who like DIY spirituality: “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” – and they stop reading. You and I cannot save ourselves spiritually. There is ONE Savior – and it’s not YOU, and it’s not ME.

Hosea 13:4 says, “there is NO savior besides me.”

Philippians 2:12-13

12 “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

13 for ***IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN YOU*** both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”

So the fruit of the Spirit is the Spirit’s fruit, not fruit of YOUR efforts.

1 Corinthians 3:5-7

“Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? **6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.** 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.”

Acknowledge if your good tree has become dormant and non-productive and ask God to bring you back to life again, with good fruit! HIS fruit!

You see, as Paul says in Galatians 5 – because we still also have our old fleshly nature, that our old nature FIGHTS the new nature from God. And they always WILL fight – until we are changed to a spirit being, incorruptible, for flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:16-17

"I say then: **Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.**
17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish."

So the BIG KEY

Bearing FRUIT is given most of a whole chapter, in Yeshua's own words.
Be turning to John 15 and read along with me.

There's a winery or vineyard near where we live, called Lakeridge winery. I've also visited vineyards in Oregon and in Napa Valley, northern CA. People visit, get a tour of the wine-making process, and have free samples. Scott, webmaster for Light on the Rock, also has many pictures of vineyards. So we'll be showing video/pictures to illustrate.

The vineyards themselves:

Let's just read straight through first and then we'll examine it much closer. (slowly) You'll notice Jesus speaks of **no fruit, some fruit, more fruit, much fruit, and fruit that remains.** ;

John 15:1-5, 8, 16

"**I am the true vine**, and My Father is the vinedresser. *2 Every **branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away**; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.* 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

4 **Abide** in Me, and I in you. **As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abide** in Me.**

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. He who **abides** in Me, and I in him, **bears MUCH fruit**; for without Me you can do **nothing**.

8 **By this My Father is glorified, that you bear MUCH FRUIT**; so you will be My disciples."

John 15:16

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and **appointed you that you should go and bear fruit**, and that your **fruit should remain**, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."

Verse 8 Father wants a LOT of fruit. Fruit that doesn't go bad ("should remain" - v 16).

Back to verse 1. Jesus is the vine. Father is the gardener who takes care of the vines. Father is the one who prunes and works with us to produce fruit.

Verse 2 is very interestingly worded. Branches "IN ME" that do not bear any fruit he "takes away." But very interestingly, I have an asterisk that says "**or, LIFTS UP.**" See the NKJV and ESV marginal notes on this.

- There are poles and support systems to keep the branches lifted up, and OFF the ground – or OUT of the DIRT. Those in the dirt get stepped on, don't get enough light from above, and end up unfruitful. We are the branches. God does not want us

in the dirt. But when we go someplace God won't go or watch things that God's unhappy with – we're "in the dirt." When we sit and fret and worry, that's sitting in the dirt!

Whether the branch is taken away, cut off – or lifted up – it is getting God's attention. But notice again the branch in question is "IN Christ." I think that's **HUGE.** And over and over, he admonishes us to abide "IN ME" or in him.

Listen carefully: NOBODY can be "in Christ" without receiving the Holy Spirit. This is someone who has been baptized by the Holy Spirit and is placed in the body of Christ but has become unproductive. Once we are IN Christ, remember that Yeshua has a COMMITMENT to finish* what he started in you. (Philippians 1:6).

1 Corinthians 12:12-13a

"For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body"

Romans 12:5

"so we, being many, **are one body IN Christ**, and individually members of one another."

Colossians 1:18 – "Christ is the head of the body, the church..."

So this first branch was "in him" but now wasn't bearing fruit. It had BECOME unfruitful. Yeshua says a lot about that in the parable of the Sower. If we let the CARES and pleasures and WORRIES of this life affect us, we can become unfruitful! Those were the seeds that got choked by the thorns. That's happened to me at times. I see it happening in too many others too. Thorns can be unfruitful pursuits, time wasters, worries and cares, pleasures of life.

Luke 8:14-15

"Now the ones (seeds) that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are **choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life**, and **bring no fruit to maturity.**

15 But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and **bear fruit with patience.**"

So it's clear John 15:2, that this branch, that Jesus says is in him, is either removed or lifted up, from the Greek "airo."

AIRO: The Word "TAKEN away, removed, cut off" in John 15:2 is from the Greek "airo" #142. But this same word is also translated in many other scriptures as "lift up, take up, took up" – like take up your bed, or picked up stones, or lifted up the anchor. So it's translated both as "cut off/taken away" and "lift up."

In some years past, I became unfruitful. But And God for my wife and some wonderful brethren who encouraged me when I was down in the dumps too. God did not just cut me off or take me away from his presence. I know my Savior as one who liked to say, "Rise up, take up your bed and walk" and he loved lifting people up who were down.

So what happens in a vineyard is that sometimes branches are on the ground. They will get trampled. They're in the dirt receiving little sunshine if ANY. That branch can either be cut off, or can be lifted UP, out of the dirt. It's all the same GREEK word!

If you're wondering why you see little fruit of God in your life – maybe you're in the dirt of this world too much! Let God redirect you and get you back on top. Ask him to lift you up.

Then my Bible Dictionary give examples of where it must mean to cut off.

So there you have it. I know MY God is super patient and full of love for me, even when I've sinned. Maybe especially when I've sinned and feel so broken up by the sin. OK, don't look down on me. You've sinned and felt down too! And loved having a Savior and Father who lift up.

HE also PRUNES us when we are producing. I've pruned some of my flower bushes and yes – at first, they seem cut back, but soon enough there are loads of flowers. You prune branches going the wrong way or are flimsy. Pruning doesn't feel good, but it will end up good.

I know SUCKER BRANCHES would be cut off and discarded. Now let's move on to the biggest KEY to producing fruit.

But the BIGGEST KEY to producing much fruit is in ONE WORD. ONE word: Abide. That one word jumps out in John 15. It means to DWELL in God, soak him in, be with him in thought often, be in “constant contact” with Christ. He likes intimacy.

You know to get the “FRUIT of the womb” – a child – you can't just hear about intimacy or talk about it. That won't produce the fruit. We have to come to KNOW our wife, using a Bible term. Fruit of the womb involves intimacy.

There has to be intimacy. It comes when a man and woman KNOW each other, in Biblical terms. It means “making love” and having sex – very intimate, to create the Fruit of the Womb.

Genesis 4:1-2

Now Adam KNEW Eve his wife, and **she conceived and bore Cain**, and said, "I have acquired a man from YHVH." 2 Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel.

I think Cain and Able could have been twins. Eve is not said to have conceived again and then bore Abel. She simple just bore him.

Fruit with God also requires this intimacy and more, as we'll see.

OUR HARD WORK AND FOCUS is not trying so hard to be patient or kind – but spending a lot more intimate time with Yeshua and Abba, our Father, abiding in Christ, DWELLING in him, soaking him in. IN John 15:4 he tells us a branch – you and I – cannot bear any spiritual fruit by ourselves. You have to stay attached, abiding, “in me,” or you'll bear nothing. Then in verse 5:

John 15:5

"I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who **abides [dwells] in Me, and I in him, **bears MUCH fruit**; for without Me you can do **nothing**."**

If you seek Yeshua, he will help you. He IS SEEKING FRUIT.

WHAT, AGAIN, is that FRUIT? It's being more and more like GOD, through his spirit. The FRUIT of the SPIRIT IS... love, joy, peace, longsuffering,

Luke 13:6-9

He also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came **seeking fruit on it and found none**. 7 Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?'

8 But he answered and said to him, '**Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it**. 9 And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.'

What's eating up YOUR time? What's distracting your FOCUS? Notice those that do bear fruit, bear it with PATIENCE. It will take time. Trees can take years to bear fruit. And the early fruit, before it matures, is hard, sour, and useless. But after a while, the fruit is abundant and evident much more.

Notice again the "fruit of the spirit" is SINGULAR – the FRUIT of the SPIRIT IS... not "fruits ARE." So we're talking about ONE fruit. Not 9. This ONE fruit has 9 characteristics of GOD. **The fruit of the Spirit DESCRIBE GOD** – and, if and when GOD is living in us by His spirit, should describe US more and more too.

So God is LOVE. God is joy. God is peace. God is very patient and longsuffering. God is kind and good, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled.

The evidence of fruit in the spirit in us is that our life glorifies GOD – not ourselves. Fruit is internal, who and what we ARE. GIFTS of God's spirit are external and about what we DO.

These are all attributes. And Don't mix up fruit of the Spirit with GIFTS of the Spirit. Fruit is what we become and ARE. Gifts are what we can DO in service as God gives us new abilities.

GIFTS are new abilities we never had before, that God gives us – wisdom, knowledge, faith, miracles, preaching and prophesying, healing, generosity, speaking in languages/tongues – so don't mix them up. (See gifts at **1 Cor. 12:4-11; Romans 12:6-8**)

So anyway, the FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT – simply is DESCRIBING GOD himself. That's the way he IS. He IS love – God is love (1 John 4:8) for example. He is JOY and peace and all the others.

We receive this fruit when we live a life that is attached to Christ and stays attached. Constant contact. A life out of the dirt of this world. A life focused on him.

So stay attached all day long. Abide in him. DWELL in him. Have frequent contact... and you'll see his FRUIT growing more and more in each of us.

Closing prayer.