

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit pt. 4

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: The Holy Spirit

Text: Galatians 5:22-23

Jesus called us to bear fruit that will last. **John 15:16** There are all **kinds** of fruit that are mentioned for the believer. Wisdom is the fruit of **righteousness**. **James 3:13-18** Discernment is a result of gaining wisdom. Righteousness happens as a result of holiness. Holiness is not a fruit it is a **choice**. **1 Peter 1:16, Hebrews 12:14** Righteousness (right standing with God) happens as a result of being holy or set apart for the Lord. Holiness is really the fruit of love because the love of God casts out all fear of God and results in us loving Him and trusting Him. Our love for God results in a life of holiness because just as a bride is set apart for the groom we are set apart as holy unto God.

Remember that sowing and reaping and seedtime and harvest apply to all areas of our lives.

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit in our lives is actually the **result** of walking with and abiding in the Holy Spirit and not walking according to our own fleshly desires. The flesh has its own kind of fruit the Bible calls them the **works** of the flesh. So really the Fruit of the Spirit is the **workings** of the Holy Spirit in our lives. **Galatians 5:16-25**

Patience

I want patience and I want it **now**!

The development of patience in us is an important part of becoming like Jesus. Patience is **difficult** for many of us. We want things to happen now and we do not want to wait for it. This is especially true in our instant gratification generation.

Job had to endure his season of suffering. Moses spent 40 years in the desert preparing for his usefulness to God. Jesus spent 30 years preparing for 3 years of ministry. Joseph endured slavery, setups and a prison sentence before he stepped into the dream God gave him as a young man. Throughout the Bible these types of stories are common in all these people that God worked through mightily; the same will hold **true** for us. To become a doctor, you must study for years. Our children take 18-20 years to develop into adults.

The definition of patience comes from the Greek word “makros” which means **long**, and “thumia” meaning temper or **disposition**. Patience is both the ability to **wait**, and the ability to wait with the correct **attitude** for your particular situation. Some versions of the Bible translate patience as longsuffering. In many ways, patience is the ability to suffer well over a long period of time. The truth is that most of us do not do suffering well.

Patience means learning to wait on the Lord without losing **hope**, admitting defeat, or being controlled by anger, fear or self – pity. Patience, as the Fruit of the Spirit, enables a Christian to exercise self-restraint in the face of testing.

This part of the Fruit will produce two things that only are gained over time: Perseverance and Endurance.

2 Peter 1:5-8 (NKJV & AMP), Romans 5:3-4, Hebrews 10:36 (NKJV & AMP), Romans 2:7

As a part of the Fruit of the Spirit, patience takes time. You do not just become patient. You learn to become and grow to be patient. There are seasons when all fruit grows, this is why it is called the growing season. Fruit takes time to develop this is certainly true for patience that results in perseverance and endurance. The Fruit of the Holy Spirit is always in season but there will be seasons where God develops the fruit to its full maturity.

We need patience for the tough and difficult times of life. All of us will face seasons of loss, illness, temptation, trials and hardship. **Hebrews 12:7-11 (MSG)**

Truthful realities about Patience

- 1) Wisdom is born out of patience. **James 1:2-5** Notice wisdom does not come without the teaching of patience. **Proverbs 14:24**
- 2) We need patience in our marriage, with raising children and grandchildren.
- 3) We need patience with each other; none of us are perfect.
Colossians 3:12-13
- 4) Patience builds up your faith.
Hebrews 6:11-12
- 5) There have been many times that God has shown us the example of patience because He has been patient with you.
- 6) One of the most glaring testimonies to the unsaved is our living patient in Christ. This patience flows from life of Christ in us.