

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

LOVE
JOY
PEACE
PATIENCE
KINDNESS
GOODNESS
FAITHFULNESS
GENTLENESS
SELF-CONTROL

GALATIANS 5:22-23

1. Love (Agape - ἀγάπη)

- **Greek Definition:** Unconditional, self-sacrificing love driven by choice and dynamic goodwill, not emotional attraction.
- **Practical Example:** Choosing to forgive and actively serve someone who has wronged you without expecting anything in return.
- **Matching Verse:** 1 Corinthians 13:4 – "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."

2. Joy (Chara - χαρά)

- **Greek Definition:** Deep-seated, enduring gladness rooted in spiritual reality and God's grace, independent of outward circumstances.
- **Practical Example:** Experiencing steady inner reassurance and gratitude while going through severe financial difficulty.
- **Matching Verse:** Philippians 4:4 – "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"

3. Peace (Eirene - εἰρήνη)

- **Greek Definition:** Completeness, tranquility of heart, and wholeness stemming from a restored relationship with God (reflecting Hebrew Shalom).
- **Practical Example:** Remaining calm and trusting during a personal crisis rather than letting panic govern your decisions.
- **Matching Verse:** Philippians 4:7 – "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

4. Patience / Longsuffering (Makrothumia - μακροθυμία)

- **Greek Definition:** Long-temperedness; holding back anger and bearing with difficult people or trial over a long period.
- **Practical Example:** Responding gently to a coworker who continually makes frustrating mistakes instead of snapping.
- **Matching Verse:** Colossians 3:12 – "Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

5. Kindness (Chrestotes - χρηστότης)

- **Greek Definition:** Benignity of heart; a warm, tender-hearted disposition that acts with practical usefulness toward others.
- **Practical Example:** Noticing a neighbor struggling with chores and taking time out of your day to assist them.
- **Matching Verse:** Ephesians 4:32 – "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

6. Goodness (Agathosyne - ἀγαθωσύνη)

- **Greek Definition:** Moral excellence combined with active generosity and righteousness, including firm correction when necessary.
- **Practical Example:** Standing up for a victim of bullying or advocating for justice in your local community.
- **Matching Verse:** Romans 15:14 – "I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness..."

7. Faithfulness (Pistis - πίστις)

- **Greek Definition:** Reliability, trustworthiness, loyalty, and unwavering adherence to promises and duties.
- **Practical Example:** Honoring your commitments to your spouse or workplace even when it becomes inconvenient or difficult.
- **Matching Verse:** Matthew 25:21 – "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things."

8. Gentleness / Meekness (Prautes - πραΰτης)

- **Greek Definition:** Power under control; humility that is considerate of others, not weak, but restrained in strength.
- **Practical Example:** Offering constructive feedback gently without demeaning or asserting superiority over the recipient.
- **Matching Verse:** 1 Peter 3:15 – "Always be prepared to give an answer... But do this with gentleness and respect."

9. Self-Control (Egkrateia - ἐγκράτεια)

- **Greek Definition:** Inner mastery or restraint over one's desires, passions, and impulses.
- **Practical Example:** Walking away from a heated argument before saying something destructive.
- **Matching Verse:** 2 Timothy 1:7 – "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."

Paul concludes in verse 23 with "against such things there is no law," pointing out that no legal code condemns these qualities, nor can legalism produce them—they are the natural outgrowth of walking by the Spirit.

YouVersion studies on the Fruit of the Spirit:

For those individuals or groups interested in going deeper, there are a number of studies on the **"Fruit of the Spirit"** and others on the individual fruit on the YouVersion Bible App or website. [I would encourage you to take time this week to dive deeper into your one word.](#) As you abide in Jesus, and walk in step with the Spirit may the Fruit of the Spirit grow and flourish in you!

The YouVersion Bible is accessible on the internet or through their app.

<https://www.bible.com>

Search for *"Fruit of the Spirit"* and then **add** the fruit you looking, for example ***"Fruit of the Spirit Love"***. It will list a number of "Plans" that are available.

Because **we are better together** ask some people to join you in the study and share your insights and thoughts.