

Sunday Equipping





Walking by the Spirit: The Fruit of the Spirit





Covington Burton Swindle



Schedule



- April 14, 2024 Fruit of the Spirit Joy and Peace
- April 21, 2024 Fruit of the Spirit Patience and Self-Control
- April 28, 2024 Fruit of the Spirit Kindness and Goodness
- May 5, 2024 Fruit of the Spirit Faithfulness and Gentleness

Galatians 5:22-26

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Walking By the Spirit

The Nature of the Fruit of Spirit

1. One fruit

2. Interdependent with one another

3. Growth in grace measured by the least of these

Walking By the Spirit



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The Nature of the Fruit of Spirit

1. One fruit

2. Interdependent with one another

3. Growth in grace measured by the least of these

"...we notice that we are naturally stronger in some rather than others. But our strengths, apart from the Holy Spirit, are due to natural temperament (we have a trait through brain chemistry and early training), or to natural self-interest (we learned a trait in order to handle some issue or condition we met). For example, some people are temperamentally gentle and diplomatic (gentleness). But the sign that this is not due so much to the Holy Spirit is that such people are usually not bold or courageous (faithfulness)."

- Tim Keller

On Your Own

Write a quick definition of Joy and Peace in your own words.









The Meaning of Words

Words in Context

"Bat"



"Ball"



Word Study Example: World

John 3:16-17

16 "For *God so loved the world*, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

1 John 2:15-17

15 **Do not love the world** or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Word Study: Joy

On Your Own:

Read through the passages on your handout and come up with a range of meaning for the word "joy" in the Bible.

As a Table:

Discuss what you learned.

Describe in your own words what Joy means as a fruit of the Spirit

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Anti-Joy

- Sorrow
- Circumstances as only basis

False Joy

- Happiness
- Stoicism

True Joy

- The basis of joy
- A state of mind

Luke 10:17-20

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

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Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Cultivating Joy

Thankfulness

Philippians 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Cultivating Joy

• Thankfulness

• Godly Grief

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

9 As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. 10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Psalm 51:12

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Cultivating Joy

- Thankfulness
- Godly Grief

Romans 5:3-5

3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Cultivating Joy

- Thankfulness
- Godly Grief
- Empathy

Romans 12:15

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Word Study: Peace

On Your Own:

Read through the passages on your handout and come up with a range of meaning for the word "peace" in the Bible.

As a Table:

Discuss what you learned.

Describe in your own words what Peace means as a fruit of the Spirit

A mature and equipped Kingdom Disciple is one who is united with Christ, walking by the Spirit and is being continually transformed by Him in the whole person (head, heart, and hands). <u>Motivated by the gospel, they are growing in their love</u> <u>for God, self, and neighbor</u> characterized by:

- Worshipping God Holistically
- Demonstrating Godly Character
- Embracing a Kingdom-Oriented Calling
- Stewarding God's Resources
- God-honoring Relationships
- Engaging Missionally
- Multiplying Spiritually



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Anti-Peace

- Self Anxiety
- Neighbor Strife, Bitterness, Envy
- God Guilt

False Peace

- Anxiety

 Distraction, Numbing
- Strife

 "Sweep it under the rug"
- Guilt
 Relative morality

True Peace

Anti-Peace False Peace

True Peace

• Bring your anxieties to the Lord

John 12:17-28

27 "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name."

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Anti-Peace False Peace

True Peace

• Bring your anxieties to the Lord

Philippians 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Anti-Peace False Peace

True Peace

• Bring your anxieties to the Lord

Psalm 94:17-19 (NASB)

17 If the LORD had not been my help, My soul would soon have dwelt in the abode of silence.

18 If I should say, "My foot has slipped," Your lovingkindness, O LORD, will hold me up.

19 When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Your consolations delight my soul.

Anti-Peace False Peace

True Peace

- Bring your anxieties to the Lord
- Make peace with others

Romans 12:17-19

17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Anti-Peace False Peace

True Peace

- Bring your anxieties to the Lord
- Make peace with others
- Live in the peace that the gospel brings
 Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Anti-Peace False Peace

True Peace

Cultivating Peace

- Christian Meditation
 - Pace and Peace
 - Filling your mind, not emptying it
- Keeping Short Accounts: Repentance and Forgiveness as a way of life

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What was your most significant takeaway from today?

How do you want to cultivate joy and peace in your life this week?