



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - October 21, 2012

Sermon

Are You Bearing Fruit for Jesus?:

“What Fruits are We Talking About?”

Galatians 5:22-26

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember about this sermon...

Monday 10/22/12

Galatians 5:22-23

When you hear “fruits of the spirit,” what do you think about in your mind? What first thoughts occur to you regarding these fruits of the spirit? Obviously, we are not talking about literal fruits here. Rather, we are talking about the positive outcomes of a faithful believer. Do you have love, joy, peace, a quiet mind, and controls over desires in your life? These are some of the fruits that should be forthcoming from a believer.

Tuesday 10/23/12

Galatians 5:24

When we belong to Christ, we put to death the passion and evil desires of the flesh. Paul indicates clearly that these evil desires have no place in our lives if we believe and put our allegiance with Jesus. A Christian is different. We are different not only by how we talk but also how we act. We need to turn even our innermost thoughts over to Christ.

Wednesday 10/24/12

Galatians 5:25

Verse 25 is a simple sentence with a seemingly simple message, but it a complex message that is difficult to adhere to in our daily living. This simple thought is that if we are living by the Spirit, then we should be guided by the Spirit. Are you Spirit-led? Or do you prefer to do things of your own choosing? Do you invoke the Spirit when you have decisions to make? What guides you? Jimmy Cricket said let your conscience be your guide. Paul says let the Spirit be your guide! When we are guided by the Holy Spirit our lives are different. Who is your guide in your daily life?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

List the fruits of the spirit that Paul talks about in Galatians.

How do you spend your time?

Can others tell you are a Christian just by your actions?

Thursday 10/25/12
Galatians 5:26

There is a very fine line between confidence and arrogance. We see people: athletes, movie actors, and plenty more who seek self-glory and rarely if ever really care about anyone else but themselves. The world has enough of these kind of self-serving people. God needs people who are willing to put others ahead of themselves. When we think so much about ourselves, we find ourselves being envious of others who might have more than we do. Envy is definitely not a fruit of the spirit. What fruits are you showing?

Friday 10/26/12
2 Peter 1:5-7

How we spend our time says a lot about us, too. What do you spend much of your time doing? Are you proud of this? Why or why not? This passage in 2 Peter lists some things we all should spend some time doing in our lives. Being a believer and follower of Jesus is not always easy. It takes time and energy to learn about how to best follow and bear fruit. How we spend our time says a great deal about our priorities. What are your priorities? Does how you spend your time reflect these priorities properly?

Saturday 10/27/12
2 Peter 1:8-11

Beware! Make sure you are aware of how you are spending your time and talents. The life of a dedicated Christian is one that requires growth and learning to put faith into practice. Coming to church is important because it helps us to grow in our faith. But coming to Sunday School and Small Groups are also important, too. These opportunities help us to learn and grow in our faith, but it takes time. Time is a very precious commodity. How are you spending your time?