

Day 12, January 20: To Produce the Fruit of the Spirit

“God dwells in His creation and is everywhere indivisibly present in all His works. He is transcendent above all His works even while He is immanent within them.” - A. W. Tozer

Scripture:

Galatians 5:22: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*

1 Corinthians 13:4: *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.*

Reflections:

Once we ask Jesus into our lives, the Holy Spirit takes up residence within us. The apostle Paul gives some great advice for loving and living in the Spirit in Galatians Five (5). He tells us we are called to serve one another humbly; to love others like we love ourselves. He goes on to list the fruit that comes from living in step with God, one of which is love.

Love is a loaded word and most people have a different definition of love. If you asked ten people to describe it or define it, you would most likely get ten different answers. The good news is we do not have to guess what true, Godly love is. It's spelled out for us in the Word. Love is patient and kind. It doesn't 'boast, because it is controlled and gentle. It is not rude, self-seeking, or easily angered. It does not delight in evil, but rejoices in the truth because it is full of goodness, faithfulness, and joy. The connection between these two scriptures are woven together quite beautifully and leave us with a clear picture of what love and living in the Spirit really looks like. It look like Christ, can you reflect the love of Christ to others?

Prayer:

Gracious God, thank You for Your Word that describes so clearly what love is and for Your Son Jesus who humbly modeled it on earth for us. Help my family and I to produce the Fruit of Your Spirit and love each other in a way that pleases You. May we always have a love that protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres.