

HOME GROUP QUESTIONS FROM SERMON 22nd June 2025

Fruits of the Spirit – Galatians 5: 16-25

⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, ²² drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 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 walk by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Questions:

1. Jesus said that he came that we might have abundant life (John 10: 10). What does “abundant” life mean to you? How do the fruits of the Spirit fit into that?
2. In our passage, Paul talks about the “desires of the flesh”. What does that mean to you? What is attractive about them? Are the fruits of the Spirit equally desirable – to the believer, to the non-believer?
3. Read together Romans ch6 – Paul’s detailed look at the conflict between the self-led life and a Spirit-led life. What stands out for you in Paul’s argument? What does v23 mean to you?
4. In our passage, Paul lists the characteristics that the Spirit can bring to our lives. What is your reaction to them? Do you see them as the “abundant life” alternative to the list of self-led characteristics, or more “goody goody”?
5. In 2 Corinthians 2: 15, Paul talks about us being the “aroma of God” to those around us. How strong is your aroma, or is it indistinguishable from others? Are there any fruits of the Spirit you should be praying for in order to strengthen your aroma? (Be honest!)