

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



Fruit *of* *the* Spirit

evidence that God is at work in your life

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- **Galatians 5:22-23** — *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”*

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- God the Father wants to transmit and impart **9 specific elements** of the fruit of the Holy Spirit up into our personalities

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- God wants all of us to enter into a true sanctification process with Him so that He can begin the process of molding, shaping, and transforming us into the express image of His Son Jesus Christ

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



JOY

“the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires”

LOVE

- **The first element in the fruit of the Spirit is love**
- But too often real love is missing
- As a result people are looking for love in all the wrong places
- In the same way people are looking for joy in all the wrong places

GREEK WORDS FOR JOY

- **CHARA** — “*a feeling of inner gladness, delight or rejoicing.*”

JOY

- **Joy** in the New Testament is virtually always used to signify a feeling of “*happiness*” that is based on spiritual realities (and independent of what “*happens*”)

JOY

- **Joy** is an inner gladness; a deep seated pleasure
- It is a depth of assurance and confidence that ignites a cheerful heart
- It is a cheerful heart that leads to cheerful behavior

JOY

- **Joy** is not an experience that comes from favorable circumstances but is God's gift to believers
- **Joy** is a part of God's very essence and as discussed below His Spirit manifests this supernatural joy in His children

JOY

- **Acts 13:52** — “*And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.*”

JOY

- **I Thessalonians 1:6** — ***“You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.”***

JOY

- **Joy** is the deep-down sense of well-being that abides in the heart of the person who knows all is well between himself and the Lord

JOY VS HAPPINESS

- **Joy** is the evidence of the presence of God in your life
- The Bible mentions “*joy*” or “*rejoicing*” 330 times
- But it mentions “*happiness*” only 26 times

JOY VS HAPPINESS

- “*Happiness*” depends upon what happens to you – depends on external factors
- “*Joy*” depends on internal factors

ENEMIES OF JOY

- **Unresolved guilt** – A lot of people are unable to accept themselves and to accept the forgiveness of God

ENEMIES OF JOY

- **Wounded ego** – People get hurt when others hurt/disrespect/ignore them

ENEMIES OF JOY

- **Unpleasant circumstances** –
People don't have joy when they experience defeat, bad luck, death in the family, failure

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **John 15:5-11** – *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers;*

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **John 15:5-11** – *“such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit,*

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **John 15:5-11** – *“showing yourselves to be my disciples. “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and*

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **John 15:5-11** — *“remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.”*

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

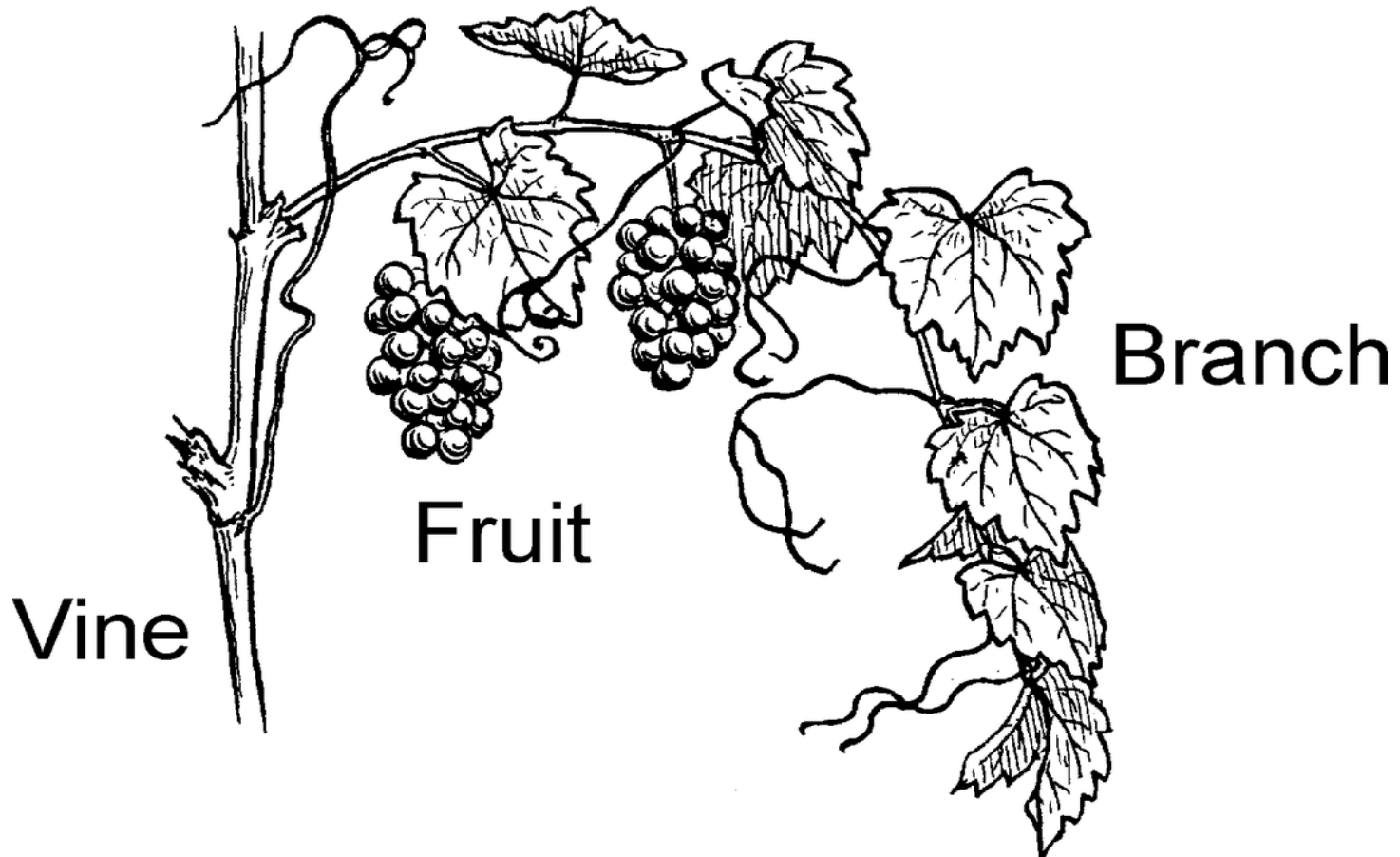
- On the last night of his life facing the cross, Jesus talks about love and joy
- And the next day He goes to the cross & dies for us

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **Hebrews 12:2** – *“fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”*

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- Vine and the branches – Christ and a believer



HOW TO EXPERIENCE PERFECT JOY

- **Read the Bible**
- **Be faithful in church**
- **Serve God and men**
- **Focus on the eternal and not the temporal**

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **II Corinthians 4:16-18 –**

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

- **II Corinthians 4:16-18** — “*glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*”

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

*Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.*

PERFECT EXAMPLES OF JOY

*Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

NEXT

PEACE