# SUBJECT: PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH BIBLE BASIS:

Lesson Scripture: Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-10

**BIBLE TRUTH:** 

"The Fruit of the Spirit"

MEMORY VERSE: READ Galatians 6:2 LESSON AIM:

That you will understand the meaning of "
"the fruit of the Spirit.

#### Introduction

- A genuine believer stands before God approved and acceptable. He is embraced and loved by God, looked after and cared for by God. And he is the recipient of eternal life and of the absolute assurance of eternal life. But note: the believer has not been accepted by God because he deserves it, not because he kept enough laws to win the approval of God. The believer has been accepted by God because of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty for man's transgressions of the law. He died to free men from the law, from its judgment and condemnation. Therefore, standing before God, the believer is not there because he has kept laws and has earned the right to stand there. He is there because of his faith in Jesus Christ. His faith honors God's Son, . He honors the person by doing exactly what the person believes. Therefore, the man who believes that Jesus Christ makes him acceptable to God becomes acceptable to God. We now move into the final section of the letter in which Paul makes the practical application of Christian liberty to the lives of the believer. There are a series of for contrast in these two chapters. Liberty Not Bondage, Spirit and not Flesh, Works and Fruit, Others and not Self, Gods Glory and not Mans Approval

#### Cluster of Fruit

- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, [23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. [24] And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts
- The contrast here is between the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. Our fruit is nurtured and cultivated by God (John 15:1,4). The Spirit is the dynamic power of God working in our lives to bring forth fruit (Acts 1:8; Romans 8:14). The word "love" here is the Greek word agape, the unselfish spiritual love that comes from God. The rest of this verse describes agape (1 Corinthians 13). The fruit of the Spirit is agape (1 John 3:14). Joy is the consciousness of God's love. Peace is more than the absence of conflict. True peace is only possible when agape exists. Gentleness is sensitivity to the needs of others. Love is the strongest motivator for goodness. Agape causes others to have faith in our word; it makes us trustworthy. Meekness is humility. The people who are humble don't tell you they are. Temperance is moderation. The fruit of the Spirit should be flowing from our lives for the building up of the Body of Christ (James 1:22-24).

## Walking In The Spirit

- [25] If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. [26] Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.
- v. 25 Living in the Spirit begins when we are born again.
- Walking in the Spirit means that we are conscious of God's presence with us at all times. An awareness of God's presence helps us to be obedient to Him and to avoid evil. If we walk in the Spirit, we will not fulfill the desires of the flesh (v. 16). Walking in the Spirit is walking in love.
- v. 26 The glory and praise of men soon passes.
- Making a show in the flesh provokes others and causes envy. We should conduct ourselves in a way that leads people to glorify God for our actions (John 3:29-30).

#### Don't Kill Your Brother

- [6:1] Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. [2] Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. [3] For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. [4] But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.
- v. 2 Paul tells the Galatians to lift the burdens from each other in Christian love
- (John 13:34; Matthew 22:36-40). The false teachers were adding to the Galatians' burdens by putting them under the law.
- **v.** 3 Romans 12:3; James 1:22; 1 John 1:8; 1 Corinthians 4:7.
- v. 4 Paul suggests that we examine the motivation behind our works to deter mine whether we did our best. We shouldn't judge our works in comparison to the works of others, but in comparison to our ideal in Jesus Christ (Luke 18:10-14 John 16:8-11).

#### We All Live In Glass Houses

- [5] For every man shall bear his own burden. We are to reach out to help and lift the brother or sister who falls. We should show compassion and understanding, remembering that we also are tempted.
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- v. 5 Note a fact: no sin is specified. The sin may be large or small, black or gray, despicable or acceptable (to man), serious or innocent, harmful or harmless. The point to note is this: a true Christian brother can be overtaken by sin. The word "overtaken" is interesting: it means to be taken beforehand, by surprise, or unexpectedly. A true Christian is *surprised* when he is overtaken by sin; he *never suspected* it. In fact, being overtaken by serious sin was seldom, if ever, a concern; for he belonged to Christ and lived in Christ. Paul uses a different Greek word here for "burden" than the word he used in verse two. The "burden" in verse two is the same as used in Acts 15:28. The "burden" here in verse five is similar to a "back pack."
- v. 6 The Lord blesses those who give cheerfully and willingly to Him (Malachi 3:8-12; Philippians 4:17). Unfortunately, some people try to take advantage of Christians by begging for money, as if the work of God depended on men's donations

### You Reap What You Sow

- [6] Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things[7] Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. [8] For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.
- Few people are as important to a society as are teachers. The relationship between teacher and student is a subject that is never stressed enough within the church. The present passage deals with this subject, in particular with the student's responsibilities to the teacher. Keep in mind that every believer is a student who sits at the feet of God's teachers whether they be ministers or Bible teachers. When a teacher goes to meet a need, the believer must not miss the opportunity to join his teacher and minister with him. No chance to minister should ever be missed. Opportunity can be missed, and a believer can miss the privilege of ministering and of being more greatly rewarded in the glorious day of redemption. Therefore, he must stay alert and not be weary if he wants a full reward.
- v. 7-8 We mustn't make allowances for our flesh (Romans 13:14). Many people fool themselves into thinking that they can live to please their flesh and have a good relationship with God, too.

#### Don't Give UP

- [9] And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. [10] As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith
- v. 9-10 We shouldn't be so concerned about our own pleasure or comfort that we overlook the people in need who are all around us
- Note to whom he is to minister: to all men (unbelievers), but especially to believers. A person is responsible for his own family first; then he adds on the burden of the world. God has placed us all within a family and we are the ones who are first responsible for that family. Others may help us, but we are the ones who are primarily responsible. The same is true with the family of God. A Christian brother is the one who is responsible for the family of God. Therefore, we must always meet the needs of our Christian family before moving on out among unbelievers.