



# Small Group Lesson Outlines

By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Joy

## Week One of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



#### Open in Prayer & Discuss

- How would you define & describe joy?
- What do you most want to get out of these lessons on the Fruit of the Spirit?

## The Lesson

To become like Jesus I must \_\_\_\_\_ over my old nature (flesh).

1) \_\_\_\_\_ the relationship between Joy and Grace.

Both words come from the same root in Greek; Grace - *Charis* and joy *Chara* come from *Char*

- Char indicates something that \_\_\_\_\_
- Charis indicates \_\_\_\_\_ that produces well being.

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8-10 (ESV)

- Chara is the \_\_\_\_\_ of that well being.

<sup>4</sup> Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God. Psalm 43:4 (ESV)

2) \_\_\_\_\_ how it works.

Joy is having God's \_\_\_\_\_ on life.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, James 1:2

Like Love – Joy is NOT an emotion or feeling, but it's often thought of that way because it PRODUCES feelings, we have an emotional response to God's Grace when we see it.

- Joy doesn't waiver because it's a \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. Jude 1:3 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. Galatians 1:9 (ESV)

- Therefore in difficult times I can be joyful because I'm \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, <sup>2</sup> for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 2 Corinthians 8:1-2 (ESV)

<sup>11</sup> We ask him to strengthen you by his glorious might with all the power you need to patiently endure everything with joy. Colossians 1:11 (GW)

- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ the benefits Joy brings into your life.

Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." Neh. 8:10

- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ to take that first big step towards joy.

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4 (ESV)

- I need to make a \_\_\_\_\_ to view life from God's Perspective.

#### DISCUSSION:

- 1) Is the difference between joy and the emotion of happiness clear to you? Can you see these two things in your own life?
- 2) Joy was defined as "having God's perspective on life." What do you think God's perspective on your life is right now? How does it differ from your own point of view?
- 3) Is it really possible to be extremely poor yet overflowing with Joy?
- 4) Can you name any benefits that the fruit of Joy has brought into your life?
- 5) HOW is the joy of the Lord my strength? Give some concrete and personal examples from your own life experience to support your answer.

- 6) James says to count it “all” (pure) joy when trials come your way. Have you ever been able to do this? Does this sound slightly crazy to you?
- 7) The lesson says to make a “quality decision” to view life from God’s perspective. What is a quality decision? How can I make that decision really last?
- 8) Is it really possible to “reckon” (count) your way into the pure Joy of the Lord?



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS & THEN CLOSE IN PRAYER**



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Joy

## Week Two of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



#### Open in Prayer & Discuss

- How would you define peace in both the world and personally?
- Jesus said He would give us His peace not the world's peace. What is the world's peace?

## The Lesson

1) Peace is not just absence of conflict, it's about \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>22</sup> *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...* Galatians 5:22 (ESV)

<sup>23</sup> *Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (ESV)

- Sometimes peace means choosing to step into confrontation or conflict.

2) I cannot find true peace outside of Jesus.

- Peace is a \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus gives to me.

<sup>27</sup> *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.* John 14:27 (ESV)

- Peace in Jesus doesn't always \_\_\_\_\_ to me.

<sup>7</sup> *And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* Philippians 4:7 (ESV)

3) As a follower of Jesus I \_\_\_\_\_ the peace of God.

<sup>1</sup> *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Romans 5:1 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1-2 (ESV)

- **Understanding that I live under grace is a prerequisite to peace.**

<sup>2</sup> May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 2 Peter 1:2 (ESV)

**3) What should I do if I don't \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

- **Pray about what is making me anxious and \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7 (ESV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **& trust in the facts of Scripture.**

<sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." Romans 1:16-17 (ESV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **my feelings will follow my faith eventually.**

<sup>16</sup> But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (ESV)

\_\_\_\_\_ **to make Jesus my Lord, NOT my feelings!**

<sup>4</sup> Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Romans 2:4 (ESV)

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) We said in the lesson that peace isn't the absence of conflict. But isn't that a part of peace? Why and why not?**
- 2) How can I step into a conflict and, as they said in the video, "bring peace" into that situation? How can I maintain my peace in a tense and conflicted situation?**
- 3) What kind of peace were they talking about when they said, "You cannot find true peace outside of Jesus?"**
- 4) If peace isn't an emotion then what do you think it is?**
- 5) Do you find it difficult to "ignore your feelings and trust the facts of Scripture?" How can you do that?**
- 6) In these first two lessons Amy & Louie have stressed that we can't trust our feelings. Why are they doing this? Is it really that important or are they just soulless monsters? (Or maybe Vulcans in disguise?)**
- 7) What is your biggest question or problem when it comes to having peace?**



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS AND THEN CLOSE IN A TIME OF PRAYER.**



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Patience

## Week Three of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



#### Open in Prayer & Discuss

- 1) How often do you lose your temper & what makes you do that?
- 2) When you do get angry how do you express that anger, or do you stuff it instead?

## The Lesson

1) When I lose my peace then I need \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>22</sup> *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, ...Galatians 5:22 (ESV)*

- From two words μακρός, \_\_\_\_\_ & θυμός, \_\_\_\_\_

Old versions translate it \_\_\_\_\_

"Longsuffering is that quality of self-restraint in the face of provocation which does not hastily retaliate or promptly punish; it is the opposite of anger,

- I can be patient when I rely on \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>6</sup> *The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, Exodus 34:6 (ESV)*

<sup>20</sup> *because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. 1 Peter 3:20 (ESV)*

2) This fruit keeps me from \_\_\_\_\_.

- Without patience I will \_\_\_\_\_ to the end.

<sup>3</sup> *remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 1:3 (ESV)*

<sup>22</sup> *and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. Matthew 10:22 (ESV)*

- **Patience is necessary if I am to fulfill my \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>14</sup> *And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.* 1 Thessalonians 5:14 (ESV)

### **3) How should I \_\_\_\_\_ my anger?**

<sup>25</sup> *Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.* <sup>26</sup> *Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,* <sup>27</sup> *and give no opportunity to the devil.* Ephesians 4:25-27 (ESV)

- **Speak the truth lovingly without regard to the \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>15</sup> *but speaking truth in love, we may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, even Christ;* Ephesians 4:15 (ASV)

### **Don't be afraid of people getting angry with you – don't give into the fear of men.**

<sup>14</sup> *But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,* 1 Peter 3:14 (ESV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **the power of anger.**

<sup>5</sup> *And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.* Mark 3:5 (ESV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **it's not always sinful to be angry.**

<sup>14</sup> *In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there.* <sup>15</sup> *And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.*

<sup>16</sup> *And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade."* <sup>17</sup> *His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."* John 2:14-17 (ESV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ **with my anger quickly.**

<sup>17</sup> *Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.* <sup>18</sup> *If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.* <sup>19</sup> *Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."* Romans 12:17-19 (ESV)

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) How long do you have to suffer before it's ok to get angry?
- 2) In the lesson we are told to rely on God's mercy to be more patient. How does that work out in real life? How does thinking of God's mercy make me more able to hold onto my temper?
- 3) What is your ministry? How often have you, or are you, tempted to quit your ministry?
- 4) Why is patience so important to doing your ministry well and finishing it the way God wants you too?
- 5) They talked about enduring to the end in the lesson. What does that mean to you?
- 6) How often are you tempted to give into the "fear of man" as discussed in the lesson?
- 7) We are told to recognize the power of anger. Just how powerful is your anger? What kind of consequences have you seen in your life from failing to be patient and giving into anger?
- 8) How do you know when your anger is sinful or not? Are there signs for you to look for?
- 9) Just how quickly should we deal with our anger?



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS AND THEN CLOSE IN A TIME OF PRAYER.**



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Kindness & Goodness

## Week Four of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



### Open In Prayer & Discuss

- 1) How can we prevent people from taking advantage of our kindness?
- 2) Since Jesus said in Luke 18:19 that only God is truly good, how can I be good?

## The Lesson

1) Kindness is treating others & myself the way \_\_\_\_\_.

- Jesus is my \_\_\_\_\_ of what kindness really is.

<sup>32</sup> *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.* Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)

Kindness flows from Jesus and leads me \_\_\_\_\_ to him.

<sup>4</sup> *But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.* Titus 3:4-7 (ESV)

I am called to \_\_\_\_\_ like Jesus whether it's appreciated & returned or not.

<sup>35</sup> *But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.* Luke 6:35 (ESV)

Kindness isn't always \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>6</sup> *Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.* Proverbs 27:6 (ESV)

2) God's kindness leads me to \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>4</sup> *Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that*

God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Romans 2:4 (ESV)

**3) God's kindness in Christ is also a \_\_\_\_\_ to spiritual growth.**

<sup>1</sup> So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. <sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2:1-3 (ESV)

**If I'm not growing spiritually perhaps a lack of experiencing Jesus' kindness is a cause.**

**4) I am called to \_\_\_\_\_ what is good.**

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

**2) I am commanded to \_\_\_\_\_ to what is good.**

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Romans 12:9 (ESV)

**3) Then I must \_\_\_\_\_ what is good.**

<sup>10</sup> So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10 (ESV)

**4) I should \_\_\_\_\_ goodness starts in my heart.**

<sup>16</sup> And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" <sup>17</sup> And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." <sup>18</sup> He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, <sup>19</sup> Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>20</sup> The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." <sup>22</sup> When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Matthew 19:16-22 (ESV)

<sup>18</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

<sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone." Matthew 15:18-20 (ESV)

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

## **DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Kindness was described as having a temper that is “sympathetic” or “sweet.” Would you say that what your temper is? If not how would you describe your own temper?**
- 2) We were told that Jesus is our role model for what kindness really is. Do you think most people today would call the way He acted in the Gospels kind? Why or why not? Do you think He was kind? Why or why not.**
- 3) How can God’s kindness lead me closer to Jesus? How have you seen that in your own life or the life of others?**
- 4) Why is it so hard to continue being kind to people when they don’t seem to appreciate our kindness?**
- 5) If “kindness isn’t always nice,” then what is it?**
- 6) Since I’m called to “prove what is good,” how do I do that? What criteria do I use and how do I apply this in my life?**
- 7) The lesson told us to “remember that goodness starts in my heart.” If I don’t have a good heart how can I be good? Why is the heart so important to the Fruit of the Spirit and indeed the entire Christian life?**



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS AND THEN CLOSE IN A TIME OF PRAYER.**



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Faithfulness

## Week Five of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



#### Open In Prayer & Discuss

- 1) What's the difference between having faith & being faithful?
- 2) Can I be faithful to God but not to His Word and/or His people?

## The Lesson

1) I cannot love if I \_\_\_\_\_ to be faithful.

<sup>22</sup> *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, Galatians 5:22 (ESV)*

<sup>7</sup> *Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:7 (ESV)*

• As a disciple of Jesus I am called to be faithful in \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>5</sup> *Better is open rebuke than hidden love. <sup>6</sup> Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy. Proverbs 27:5-6 (ESV)*

<sup>21</sup> *How the faithful city has become a whore, she who was full of justice! Righteousness lodged in her, but now murderers. Isaiah 1:21 (ESV)*

2) I can count on Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ faithful to me.

<sup>18</sup> *And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

<sup>19</sup> *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)*

3) But can Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to be faithful to Him?

<sup>31</sup> *So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, John 8:31 (ESV)*

<sup>31</sup> Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. John 8:31 (NLT)

<sup>66</sup> After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. <sup>67</sup> So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” <sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, <sup>69</sup> and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” John 6:66-69 (ESV)

**4) To be faithful I must \_\_\_\_\_ Biblical Priorities.**

**PRIORITIES:**

• I make God & Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ in my life.

<sup>4</sup> “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 (ESV)

<sup>24</sup> “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. Matthew 6:24 (ESV)

• I \_\_\_\_\_ as my circumstances require.

**Typical Western Church Priorities:**

God  
Spouse  
Kids  
Parents/family  
Ministry  
Friends

**Typical 3rd World Church Priorities:**

God  
Ministry  
Spouse  
Kids  
Parents/family  
Friends

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Discuss the relationship between love and faithfulness. How important is one to the other? Can you have one without the other?
- 2) In the lesson it was said Christians are called to be “faithful not flaky.” Is this really true and just how important is our being faithful to our witness to the unbelieving world?
- 3) How does knowing Jesus will remain faithful to you impact the way you live? How does that help you? Can you give a good example of how it has impacted you?
- 4) Look at the list of priorities above, which one do you think is most correct?
- 5) Which of those two lists comes closest to what you actually DO in life, not what you think.
- 6) Using the 6 categories in the lists write out and share with the group your personal list of faithful priorities.

7) What is left out of that list that you'd include in yours?



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS AND THEN CLOSE IN A TIME OF PRAYER.**



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Gentleness

## Week Six of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



#### Open In Prayer & Discuss

- 1) Do you think people would describe you as a gentle person? Why or why not?
- 2) Do most people in our society today see gentleness as a desirable trait?

## The Lesson

1) I need to \_\_\_\_\_ what gentleness really is.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)*

- The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ it in my life

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Matthew 11:29 (ESV)*

- There is no gentleness without \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5 (ESV)*

*“Meekness is essentially a true view of oneself, expressing itself in attitude and conduct with respect to others...The man who is truly meek is the one who is truly amazed that God and man can think of him as well as they do and treat him as well as they do.” – Dr. Lloyd-Jones*

2) I can be gentle because of the \_\_\_\_\_ given me by Jesus.

*“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” Matthew 21:5 (ESV)*

*And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)*

3) I can be gentle because of Jesus example of being a \_\_\_\_\_

*Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. John 13:3-5 (ESV)*

4) I can be gentle because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.

*Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16 (ESV)*

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) What's the best way to learn what gentleness is? Through study or by observing a truly gentle person in action? Which would you prefer to do and why?
- 2) Does gentleness make you weak or lead you to be manipulated by others? Why or why not?
- 3) What's the difference between the Holy Spirit growing this fruit in my life and me trying to be gentle by an application of my will? How can I tell the difference between the two?
- 4) In our lesson gentleness was linked to humility. Why is humility necessary to be gentle? How do these two qualities work together in our lives?
- 5) What does the authority that Jesus gives to all believers have to do with being gentle? Why do many people see authority as something separate and distant from gentleness?
- 6) Jesus showed his gentleness by being a servant. How does that work for us? Can you be an authentic servant of God and others without gentleness?
- 7) What is the relationship between God's Grace and my being a gentle person? Do you think these are linked together and if so why are they linked together?



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS AND THEN CLOSE IN A TIME OF PRAYER.**



# The Fruit of the Spirit—Self-Control

## Week Seven of Everyday in the Spirit

### By Louie Marsh & Amy Campbell



#### Open In Prayer & Discuss

- 1) On a scale of one to ten how much self-control do you think you have?
- 2) What areas of your life would you like to see more self-control in? Any areas where you need less?

## The Lesson

1) Self-Control is last on the list but I'll be \_\_\_\_\_ without it.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,  
<sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)

- Self-Control is \_\_\_\_\_

**Usage Notes:** from *kratos*, "strength,") self-control; the various powers bestowed by God upon man are capable of abuse; the right use demands the controlling power of the will under the operation of the Spirit of God;

- Self-Control is \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, <sup>7</sup> for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1:6-7 (ESV)

- Self-Control comes in response to \_\_\_\_\_.

And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you." Acts 24:25 (ESV)

The word follows "righteousness," which represents God's claims, self-control being man's response thereto;

- Self-Control is a \_\_\_\_\_ response.

and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 2 Peter 1:6 (ESV)

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1:6-7 (ESV)

2) If I want to serve God I must \_\_\_\_\_ with all my heart.

- I cannot \_\_\_\_\_ or be a \_\_\_\_\_ without it.

*Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 1 Timothy 3:2 (ESV)*

- I cannot properly \_\_\_\_\_ without this fruit of the Spirit.

<sup>6</sup> *For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands,* <sup>7</sup> *for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1:6-7 (ESV)*

3) Self-Control begins when I accept \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>9</sup> *You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. Romans 8:9 (NIV)*

<sup>13</sup> *Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 1:13 (ESV)*

<sup>15</sup> *and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. 2 Corinthians 5:15 (ESV)*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why is it that so many people don't want to talk about self-control? Is this a form of denying we have a problem?
- 2) Self-Control is inner strength. Why is it so important that this comes from our hearts and is not just imposed upon us, for our own good, from the outside?
- 3) How does thinking clearly help you be self-controlled? Is it hard to think clearly and logically when you are in a crisis situation? Why is that?
- 4) They said in the lesson that self-control is a learned response. What does that mean and how does that work in our lives?
- 5) The lesson also said we should seek this fruit with all our hearts. Why? Won't the Holy Spirit just grow this within us when He knows it's the right time?
- 6) Discuss the relationship between this fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit.
- 7) As this study comes to a close take a few moments to share what it's done for you and have you've been blessed by it. Please be sure to communicate this to Louie so he can properly evaluate how this campaign has gone.



**SHARE PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS AND THEN CLOSE IN A TIME OF PRAYER.**