

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ICE BREAKER: We've been talking about serving at Riverside the past couple of weeks. How have you been impacted by serving others, or by being served at Riverside?

1. When you think of someone who lives a Holy Spirit filled life, what do you see? What characteristics, actions, mannerisms or interactions would you expect from them?
2. How can we get caught up in just trying to achieve "negative goodness" (legalism) instead of displaying actual positive qualities? Isn't living by the letter of the law a good thing?
3. Read Galatians 5:22-23 and discuss what Pastor Tom had to say about love being the fruit of the Spirit. See also: Galatians 5:6b, 13-14 and Colossians 3: 12-14.
4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:3. Pastor Tom taught that love is absolutely necessary. How do these passages back that up, and how are you using your gifts in a way that is informed by love?
5. "Biblical love is a combination of attitudes and choices that produce character." We choose to love others, so as you review the characteristics of Biblical love in your message notes, what does that look like in real life?
6. As you think more personally, how is this type of love being seen in you? What does your "love life reveal about the working of God's Spirit in and through you?"
7. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. What next steps can you take to allow the fruit of the Spirit to be on full display in your life this week?

PERSONAL GUIDE

Day One: **1 Samuel 12**
Day Two: **1 Samuel 13**
Day Three: **1 Samuel 14**
Day Four: **1 Samuel 15**
Day Five: **1 Samuel 16**



**MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP
DISCUSSION || PERSONAL GUIDES**

**"WHAT'S LOVE GOT
TO DO WITH IT?"**

MARCH 8TH, 2020



“What’s Love Got to Do With It?”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

So what does the Spirit-filled life _____?

Negative _____ is not enough in a life; there must be positive qualities as well. (Wiersbe)

The most compelling evidence that you and me are living a Spirit-filled life is the _____ of the Spirit.

1. What is the Fruit of the Spirit? (note Galatians 5:22a)

The fruit of the Spirit is _____.

Note Galatians 5:6b, 13-14; Colossians 3:12-14; 1 Corinthians 13 and Galatians 5:22-23

2. Love is Absolutely _____

Note 1 Corinthians 12:31; 13:1-3

It is the fruit of the Spirit, love, that makes spiritual gifts _____ and effective.

Ministry without love cheapens both the minister and those who are touched by it; but ministry with love _____ the whole church. (Wiersbe)

Note Galatians 5:6.

3. Love is a _____

Note Ephesians 3:17b-19

_____ love is not a feeling or an emotion.

Definition = *Choosing for the _____ good of another.*

Note Galatians 5:22-23

Biblical love is a combination of attitudes and choices that produce _____.

1 Corinthians 13 tells us that love (the fruit of the Spirit) is:

- Patient (...with _____... put up a lot with others)
- Kind (*Obviously these people are _____; they do not claim good intentions but then plead helplessness.* Morris)

To be patient and kind is a tough, _____, aggressive style of life. (Smedes)

Love (the fruit of the Spirit) does not:

- _____ (note Galatians 5:21 a...it celebrated the successes of others.)
- Boast (_____)

Love (the fruit of the Spirit) is not:

- _____
- _____
- Self-seeking (note Galatians 5:20)
- Easily angered (not a _____...)
- Is not touchy (_____...)

Love (the fruit of the Spirit):

- Keeps no record of wrongs (*logizomai* = to _____)...this is an accountant's word. It is the word used for entering up an item in a ledger so that it will not be forgotten...so many people _____ their wrath to keep it warm; they _____ over their wrongs until it is impossible to forget them... (Barclay)
- 1 Corinthians 13:6 (We will enjoy our _____ so much that we would be furious were we to be deprived of it...Life without an occasional scandal would rob us of the joy of _____ and disgust. Smedes).

The fruit of the Spirit (love) puts within us the moral compulsion to pursue _____... It creates _____ people who endure, are clear-sighted, who never see failure... as the last word, who know that God has the last word, and who _____ to God despite circumstances and problems (note 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a).

Are we in rhythm with the Holy Spirit?:

- The fruit of the Spirit (love) isn't an emotion that we feel or not feel, but is attitudes and choices that develop our character and is seen most importantly and significantly in our _____ with others.
- Note connection between 1 Corinthians 13:13 with Galatians 5:6b.
- The Spirit-filled life isn't seen in our giftedness, office ministry, personal spiritual disciplines, or how well we perform the _____ of legalism... it's seen primarily in our _____ with people.
- So what does our “_____” (with other people our lives intersect with) reveal about the working of God's Spirit in and through us?

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the connect card to let us know about your commitment, too!



“What’s Love Got to do With It?”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

So what does the Spirit-filled life look like?

Negative goodness is not enough in a life; there must be positive qualities as well. (Wiersbe)

The most compelling evidence that you and me are living a Spirit-filled life is the fruit of the Spirit.

1. What is the Fruit of the Spirit? (note Galatians 5:22a)

The fruit of the Spirit *is* love.

Note Galatians 5:6b, 13-14; Colossians 3:12-14; 1 Corinthians 13 and Galatians 5:22-23

2. Love is Absolutely Necessary

Note 1 Corinthians 12:31; 13:1-3

It is the fruit of the Spirit, love, that makes spiritual gifts valuable and effective.

Ministry without love cheapens both the minister and those who are touched by it; but ministry with love enriches the whole church. (Wiersbe)

Note Galatians 5:6.

3. Love is a Verb

Note Ephesians 3:17b-19

Biblical love is not a feeling or an emotion.

Definition = *Choosing for the highest good of another.*

Note Galatians 5:22-23

Biblical love is a combination of attitudes and choices that produce character.

1 Corinthians 13 tells us that love (the fruit of the Spirit) is:

- Patient (...with people...put up a lot with others)
- Kind (*Obviously these people are doers; they do not claim good intentions but then plead helplessness.* Morris)

To be patient and kind is a *tough, active, aggressive style of life.* (Smedes).

Love (the fruit of the Spirit) does not:

- Envy (note Galatians 5:21a...it celebrated the successes of others.)
- Boast (windbag)

Love (the fruit of the Spirit) is not:

- Proud
- Rude
- Self-seeking (note Galatians 5:20)

- Easily angered (not a hothead...)
- Is not touchy (offended...)

Love (the fruit of the Spirit):

- Keeps no record of wrongs (*logizomai = to calculate*)...this is an accountant's word. It is the word used for entering up an item in a ledger so that it will not be forgotten...so many people nurse their wrath to keep it warm; they brood over their wrongs until it is impossible to forget them... (Barclay)
- 1 Corinthians 13:6 (*We will enjoy our disgust so much that we would be furious were we to be deprived of it...Life without an occasional scandal would rob us of the joy of indignation and disgust.* Smedes).

The fruit of the Spirit (love) puts within us the moral compulsion to pursue truth...it creates positive people who endure, are clear-sighted, who never see failure...as the last word, who know that God has the last word, and who hold on to God despite circumstances and problems (note 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a).

Are we in rhythm with the Holy Spirit?:

- The fruit of the Spirit (love) isn't an emotion that we feel or not feel, but is attitudes and choices that develop our character and is seen most importantly and significantly in our relationships with others.
- Note connection between 1 Corinthians 13:13 with Galatians 5:6b.
- The Spirit-filled life isn't seen in our giftedness, office, ministry, personal spiritual disciplines, or how well we perform the 3 R's of legalism...it's seen primarily in our relationships with people.
- So what does our "love life" (with other people our lives intersect with) reveal about the working of God's Spirit in and through us?

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