

.. Out of the Commentary ...

“As Christians grow in holy living, they sense their own inherent moral weakness and rejoice that whatever virtue they possess flourishes as the fruit of the Spirit” – D. A. Carson

“I am glad you know when persons are justified. It is a lesson I have not yet learnt. There are so many stony ground hearers, who receive the Word with joy that I have determined to suspend my judgment till I know the tree by its fruits. That makes me so cautious now, which I was not thirty years ago, of dubbing converts too soon. I love now to wait a little, and see if people bring forth fruit; for there are so many blossoms which March winds you know blow away, that I cannot believe they are converts till I see fruit brought back; it will never do a sincere soul any harm. – George Whitfield

“The great secret of holiness lies in the degree and the decisiveness of our repentance. If besetting sins persistently plague us, it is either because we have never truly repented, or because, having repented, we have not maintained our repentance. It is as if, having nailed our old nature to the cross, we keep wistfully returning to the scene of its execution. We begin to fondle it, to caress it, to long for its release, even try to take it down again from the cross. We need to learn to leave it there ... We have declared war on it; we are not going to resume negotiations.” – John R. W. Stott

◆ For the Bible Geeks (that should be all of you) ...*· A Description of the Fruit of the Spirit***1. Agape – love**

Definition– To serve a person for their good and intrinsic value, not for what the person brings you.

Opposite– Fear: self-protection and abusing people.

Counterfeit– Selfish affection. Rescuing someone but really rescuing self.

Attracted not to person, but to how this person’s love makes you feel about yourself.

2. Chara – joy

Definition– Delight in God and his salvation for sheer beauty and worth of who he is.

Opposite– Hopelessness, despair.

Counterfeit– Elation that comes with blessings not the Blessor! Mood swings based on circumstances.

3. Irene – peace

Definition– Confidence and rest in the wisdom and sovereignty of God more than your own.

Opposite– Anxiety and worry

Counterfeit– Indifference, apathy, not caring about something. “I don’t care.”

4. Makrothumia – patience

Definition– Ability to take trouble (from others or life) without blowing. To suffer joyfully.

Opposite– Resentment toward God and others.

Counterfeit– Cynicism. Self-righteousness. “This is too small to be bothered about.”

5. Chrestotes – kindness

Definition– Practical kindness with vulnerability out of deep inner security.

Opposite– Envy. Unable to rejoice other’s joy

Counterfeit– Manipulative good deeds. “Right hand knowing what left hand is doing.” Self-congratulation and self-righteousness.

6. Agathosune – goodness (integrity)

Definition– Honesty, transparency. Being the same in one situation as another.

Opposite– Phoniness; hypocrisy.

Counterfeit– Truth without love. “Getting it off the chest” for your sake.

7. Pistis – faithfulness

Definition– Loyalty. Courage. To be principle-driven, committed, utterly reliable. True to one’s word.

Opposite– Opportunist. Fair-weather friend.

Counterfeit– Love without truth. Being loyal when you should be willing to confront or challenge.

8. Prautas – gentleness (humility)

Definition– Self-forgetfulness.

Opposite– Superiority: self-absorbed self-aggrandizement.

Counterfeit– Inferiority: self-absorbed, self-consciousness.

9. Egkrateia – self-control

Definition– Ability to choose the important over the urgent thing.

Opposite– A driven, impulsive, uncontrolled person.

Counterfeit– Willpower through pride or through more “functional” idols.

[From Redeemer Presbyterian Church Bible Study]

◆ For the Leroy Chapel Freedom Fighters (that should be all of you) ...

Family Talk: Which characteristic stands out to you about yourself from the “works of the flesh”? How do you see this manifesting itself in your life? Have others point out which characteristic from the “fruit of the Spirit” they see evident most clearly in your life. Why is the presence of the battle a good thing?



LEROY COMMUNITY CHAPEL

SERMON NOTES
July 5, 2009

Set Free ... To Walk by the Spirit
Galatians 5:16-24

There's just no getting around it ... the Christian life is a struggle. Sometimes the word 'struggle' may even feel a bit tame. Battle, or even war might better characterize the conflict you and I feel between the lusts of the flesh and the desire for Gospel-living. Does it mean I don't love Jesus? Don't care about the Gospel? No, in fact often times the intensity of the battle means you care greatly about living life to the glory of God. You so intensely know the wickedness that still creeps out of your heart and into your choices and you grow weary over the lack of progress you see. My brother, my sister, take heart! You don't fight alone, and you don't fight in your own strength. "God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts" (Galatians 4:6) and as a son you are led by the Spirit. The question now becomes, will you walk by the Spirit or walk in the flesh?

The Great Opposition 5:16-18

Walk while being led
Don't let the flesh finish

The Works of the Flesh 5:19-21

No excuses, just own them
Sons with no inheritance?

The Fruit of the Spirit 5:22-24

No law required
It's crucified

A Weekly Freedom Focus:

If you feel the intensity of the battle, take heart ... you belong to Christ Jesus!

Word Search ...

Find the following words in the puzzle below.

FLESH • SPIRIT • DESIRES • OPPOSED • IDOLATRY • SORCERY •
IMPURITY • STRIFE • ANGER • JEALOUSY • RIVALRIES • DIVISIONS •
ENVY • LOVE • JOY • PEACE • PATIENCE • KINDNESS • GOODNESS •
FAITHFULNESS • GENTLENESS • SELF-CONTROL • LAW • WALK •

N S G F P E T M Y R G Y C K Y
F P N O P I V T K O G R J I R
W A F O R A I O O D G T D N E
D W I I I R T D L E P A C D C
A E P T U S N I N F P L S N R
N S S P H E I T E E Y O E E O
G M M O S F L V A N B D L S S
E I L S P E U C I Z C I F S K
R M F W N P E L D D Z E C B L
F R D E Y N O L N O Q R O O A
P L S R S E R I S E D L N Y W
U S E I R L A V I R S Y T K N
L A W S T R I F E Z O S R G O
Y V N E H S T C W J N L O A I
J E A L O U S Y S D E M L Q Q

Share it ...

Be prepared to share one thing God taught you from His Word this morning with a friend or someone in your family.

For Family Discussion ...

Which characteristic stands out to you about yourself from the “works of the flesh”? How do you see this manifesting itself in your life? Have others point out which characteristic from the “fruit of the Spirit” they see evident most clearly in your life. Why is the presence of the battle a good thing?

Kids Notes

Sermon -
“Set Free ... To Walk By The Spirit”
Galatians 5:16-24

Training the children of Leroy Community Chapel to listen to the Word of God and learn to follow Jesus Christ as their Lord



In case your parents missed it ...

Today's sermon is all about the battle between the flesh (the stuff you want to do but that doesn't honor God) and the Spirit (what God wants to produce in you). The more you love God, the more you will feel the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. So here's the deal – Once God has saved you, the Spirit lives in you to lead you, and you have to actively work at walking in the Spirit and doing that which reflects God.

Multiple Choice ...

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

1. *How do you not give in to the flesh?*
 - A. just tell yourself to "stop it."
 - B. walk by the Spirit.
 - C. follow as many rules as you can.
 - D. drink more Gatorade.
2. *Which characteristic fits into the works of the flesh?*
 - A. joy.
 - B. love.
 - C. fits of anger.
 - D. patience.
3. *What does self-control mean?*
 - A. You control others all by yourself.
 - B. You lose control.
 - C. You fight against people controlling you.
 - D. You choose to do that which is right over what you feel like doing.

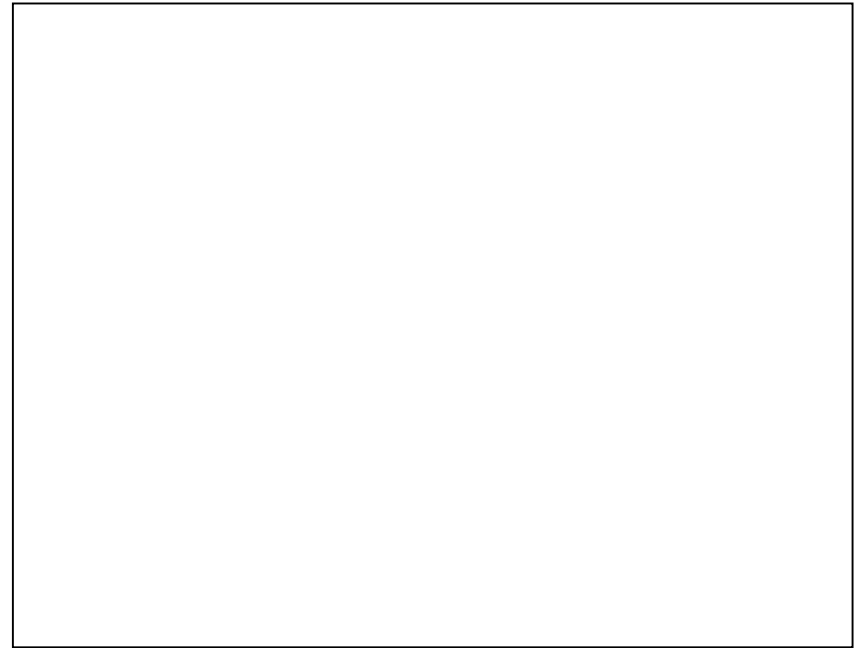
Your Bible Verse ...

Look up the following verse in your Bible and copy it on the lines below
Galatians 5:22-23- _____

What does this verse mean?

Draw a Picture

Draw a picture that illustrates something from the sermon.



Your Bible Quiz ...

How much do you know about the most important Book in the world?

1. What happened to the disciple James (Acts 12:1-5)? What happened to Simon Peter?
2. Who killed Goliath? Why did that man kill Goliath?
3. Name three mountains in the Bible?
4. What characteristic of the fruit of the Spirit will you work on?
5. How will you show that fruit to others?