

Growing Fruit

A Study of the Fruit of the Spirit



Mandy Mobley

Faithful Home
Bible Studies

Growing Fruit: A Study of the Fruit of the Spirit

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About the author...



Mandy Mobley is a wife, mother, Bible teacher, writer, and speaker. She is passionate about deeply knowing God through His Word. Her desire is to honor God through teaching women how to know the Word and live the Word.

Mandy is the founder of Faithful Home Bible Studies and the author of *Acts and the Letters: A 60-day Chronological Study*

She and her husband live in Arkansas where he is the youth minister for their church. They have two sweet children who love to laugh and hang out together.

Connect with her at
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Dear Friend,

I am so excited to be studying the Bible with you, and I'm praying for you! I pray that you will make a plan to meet with Him every day. I pray that you will soak up His Word to know who God is and who you are in Him.

I want you to know that I am just like you; I have things that get in the way of my study time. I want to study the Bible but on some days, it's harder than others to find the time. I know what it's like to miss a day and feel frustrated at myself and want to just give up. But we can't! Just pick up your Bible, start where you are and keep going. Don't give up! Don't ever give up!

And just in case you were wondering, no, I don't know everything about the Bible. I pray and pray that what I write will be biblically true, but I am human. So when in doubt, go to God's Word and check for yourself. I am constantly learning and will be until the day God calls me home.

As I pray for you, friend, pray for me too. We are all on the journey toward Heaven. Some days are great days, and some days are so very hard. But prayer makes those days a little easier, especially if you know someone is praying for you.

May you be blessed by your time in God's Word.

In faith,
Mandy



Week 1

The Letter to the Galatians

To the churches in Galatia:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 1:2-5

Group Session

If your group is new, take some time to learn names and a little about each other.

Use these questions to start a discussion about the fruit of the Spirit.

1. When you think of the fruit of the Spirit what comes to mind?

2. Read Galatians 5:22-23 together. What fruit is easy for you to produce? What fruit is more challenging? Why do you think that is?

3. How often do you pray? What helps you pray more? What hinders you from praying more?

4. What do you hope to learn from this study?

5. What is one way your group can encourage you as you study together?

Day 1 *Paul in Galatia*

This week we are going to spend time setting up the context of the fruit of the Spirit. Let's start with learning about the people of Galatia and why Paul wrote to them.

The letter to the Galatians was written by the apostle, Paul, to the people in the province of Galatia around 50 A.D.¹ Galatia was located in present-day Turkey. We do not know exactly to which city or cities in Galatia Paul was writing, but we do know he was very concerned about them. Paul spent a great deal of time in the cities of Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe located in southern Galatia (Acts 14:1-23) and in northern cities of Galatia (Acts 16:6, 18:23). Most believe the letter was written to the churches in southern Galatia.

Read Acts 14:1-23. What happened in each of the cities?

Iconium-

Lystra-

Derbe-

What happened when he went back to these cities?

Understanding what happened in these cities sets up our minds for Paul's letter to the Galatians. Tomorrow, we'll dive into that letter.

As we begin this study, write out a prayer for God to reveal who He is and how we can be more like Him as we study His Word.



Week 2

Love and Joy

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22

Day 1 *God is Love*

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.
1 John 4:16

Over the next few weeks, we won't just be studying the fruit of the Spirit. We will be studying God Himself. Since the Spirit is God, these are the fruit of God. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are nine aspects of who God is and how He works through His children.

We will study each of these fruit for two days. On the first day we will look at how God demonstrates that fruit. On the second day we will study how God grows that fruit in and through His people.

One more thing before we start digging in for today. This study is meant to be a time between you and God. The only way we can know who God is, how much we need Him, and how to be like Him is if we are digging into the Word ourselves. I pray that we will allow God to show us who He is and how He guides us to be like Him.

Look up the word "love." You can google a biblical definition of "love" if you do not have a Bible dictionary at home. Based on what you read, write a definition of the word "love."

Read 1 John 4:7-10, and 16. God is _____. How did God show His love for us?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7.

Since God is love, let's read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7 again. Only, this time put God's Name in for the word "love."

How does God show love?

Find two more verses that describe how God is love or shows love.

Based on what you've read, how does God's love compare to how you show love to people?

Day 2 *Growing Love*

A new command I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

John 13:34-35

Today our focus is how God shows His love through us. Remember the tree...we do not grow this fruit ourselves. It comes from God Himself and people will know we are His if we show His love.

Before we look at today's verses, look back at the biblical definition of "love" and the notes you wrote down yesterday. This will help our perspective as we look at God's love in us.

Read the following verses. Then write down the main idea from each passage.

1 John 4:7-21

1 Peter 4:7-11

Luke 6:27-35

John 15:1-17

How do we show God's love?

Read Romans 13:8-10. In light of what we know about Paul's letter to the Galatians, how does this passage relate to the fruit of the Spirit?

About this study...

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”
Galatians 5:22

This study of the fruit of the Spirit connects us with who God is and how we can be like Him as we allow His Spirit to live in us. God’s love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are displayed all through scripture. By studying His Word and living it out, we allow the Spirit to grow these fruits in our lives.

Growing Fruit encourages readers to dig in and study what the Bible has to say about these characteristics of God. This book will guide you to passages and allow you to discern how God would cultivate your life so that you can be fruitful for Him.

In this 7-week Bible study, you will...

- Take a look at the letter to the Galatians.
- Study the fruit of the Spirit as characteristics of God.
- Discover how the fruit of the Spirit is grown in us.
- Learn how to cultivate your life so that the fruit can grow.

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