

Character On Display

JD Small - December 29-30, 2018

“13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.” Ephesians 1:13-14

“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:22-25

- The **Fruit of the Spirit** is the **Character of God** dwelling within us and showing up in our lives.
- The **Gifts of the Spirit** are the **Power of God** operating through us in the lives of others to show them that our God is not dead, He is alive and he is all about getting involved in our everyday lives.

“22 But what happens when we live God’s way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard - things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, 23 not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely. Legalism is helpless in bringing this about; it only gets in the way. 24 Among those who belong to Christ, everything connected with getting our own way and mindlessly responding to what everyone else calls necessities is killed off for good - crucified. 25 Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives.” Galatians 5:22-25 MSG

1. Love

Agape- affection or benevolence, charity

“4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

“13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13

“5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” Romans 5:5

2. Joy

Chara- (Ha-Rah) Joy, gladness, rejoicing, happiness, Cheerfulness, calm delight

“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.” Nehemiah 8:10

- Joy looks at life through a telescope, a big lens and sees longterm.
- Happiness looks at life through a microscope to each situation throughout our days and is dependent upon what is happening to us at that very moment.

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:2

3. Peace

Eirene (I-Ray-Nay) — Shalom- peace, safety, prosperity, well-being, intactness, wholeness, well-being contentment, harmony, tranquility, welfare, health

“6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

4. Patience

Mak-roth-thumia- patience, forbearance, internal and external control in a difficult circumstance, which control could exhibit itself by delaying an action

“17 They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles you performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery. But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them...” Nehemiah 9:17

5. Kindness

Chrestotes- moral goodness, integrity, loving, benevolent

“4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness leads you toward repentance?” Romans 2:4

6. Goodness

agath-o-soon-nay- uprightness of heart and life

“Answer me, O LORD, out of the goodness of your love; in your great mercy turn to me.” Psalm 69:16

“5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 1:5-8

7. Faithfulness

Pis-tis- belief, trust, with an implication that actions based on that trust may follow, trustworthy, believable, reliable, steadiness, fidelity

“5 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. 6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.” Exodus 34:5-7

“13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.” 2 Timothy 2:13

8. Gentleness

Pra-o-tece - mildness, meekness, humility

“12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 3:12

“15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” 1 Peter 3:15

“3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.” Philippians 2:3

9. Self-Control

En-Krat-iah- To control one’s self, its passions and desires. Masterful.

“Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.” Proverbs 25:28

“16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. 19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:16-21