

**September 20 / Sunday**

**Fruit or Fruit Loops?**

Read [Gal. 5:22-25](#) / [Jn. 15:1-5](#) / [Rom. 11:17-18](#) / [Col. 1:9-14](#)



**21 / Mon – Different kinds** | Read [Galatians 5:22-25](#)

Fruit usually grows on trees, vines or bushes. Fruit is also what is produced by a person's life, their attitudes and actions. This list describes the 'fruit' that grows in the life of those who submit to the internal work of the Holy Spirit. As you read these nine qualities, do certain people come to mind? Which quality might your family or friends say they notice most about you?

**22 / Tue – He grows on you** | Read [John 15:4-5](#)

Knowing Jesus changes you. The better you get to know him and internalize his words, the more you begin to think like him. As you conform your life to his teachings, people will notice you are the real deal. You are kind because he was. You are generous without expecting anything in return. You are filled with genuine hope when others are in despair. You treat everyone with respect even those who don't 'deserve' it. How is this possible? It's not unless you stay connected to the Vine.

**23 / Wed – Seeing beyond the surface** | Read [Galatians 5:16-21](#)

A different kind of 'fruit' grows in the life of someone who is focused on self and lives for pleasure, power or stuff. Take a deeper look as you read this list. Can you discern what is beneath each one? It can be very easy to judge someone's lifestyle or actions but often there is a deep need that only Jesus can fill or a wound only he can heal. Will you ask the Holy Spirit to help you become more discerning when you see someone exhibiting these things and then respond as Jesus would?

**24 / Thu – Demonstration** | Read [2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#)

Have you heard someone speak disparagingly about a friend you know and love? How did it make you feel and how did you respond? Many people have a distorted view of what God is really like. They cannot see God with physical eyes so we need to become His representatives. How accurate is the picture you are presenting to those around you? As you exhibit the fruit of His Spirit in your life, it can be so appealing (pun intended) that hearts may open and they come to know Him too.

**25 / Fri – The oldest fruit tree** | Read [Genesis 1:11-13](#) and [3:1-13](#) / [Revelation 22:1-3a](#)

God must love fruit because He created so many kinds. Fun fact: there are 7500 varieties of apples in the world. The most rare was discovered recently in a single tree, over 1000 years old, outside the ruins in an abbey in the UK. God begins His story with a fruit tree in Gen. 1. He ends in Revelation by describing a literal fruit tree in His restored kingdom. Next time you eat an apple, think how God was able to take the consequences of the first fruit pickers and turn it into something that brings healing to the nations. How can the fruit in your life bring healing to others right now?

**26 / Sat – Prayer for fruitfulness** | Read [Colossians 1:9-14](#)

What a wonderful blessing Paul is praying over his brothers and sisters in Christ. Does it represent a desire you have for yourself? Is it one you might want to pray for others? Some kind of 'fruit' will grow in every life. It will either be fake fruit that may taste good but leaves your soul empty or it will be genuine fruit from the Spirit that honors God and nourishes others. Cultivate wisely.