

## “Love”

### Series: Nurturing Our Walk in the Spirit

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**KEY Assumption: God desires His followers to be Transformed, to become like Christ! The Fruit of the Spirit is Evidence we are correctly being transformed in the image of Christ.**

We shouldn't be surprised the 1<sup>st</sup> type of Fruit mentioned is Love:

#### Paul, to the Churches of Galatia:

- “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The **only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.**” Galatians 5:6
- You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, **serve one another humbly in love.** <sup>14</sup>For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: **“Love your neighbor as yourself.”** Galatians 5:13-14

#### Jesus:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>And the second is like it: **‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’** <sup>40</sup>All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:37-40

### Why is the Presence of the Fruit of Love so Important?

- **The Fruit of Love is Evidence that I have \_\_\_\_\_!**  
Negative example/Cain:
- “Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother’s were righteous.” 1 John 3:12
- “Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.” 1 John 3:15
- “‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.” Matthew 5:21b-22a

#### Positive example of Jesus:

- “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.” 1 John 3:16
- “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

- **The Fruit of Love is Evidence of \_\_\_\_\_!**

“And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.” 1 John 3:23

“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? <sup>15</sup>Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup>If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup>In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” James 2:14-17

- **The Fruit of Love is Evidence that God is \_\_\_\_\_!**

“Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 John 4:8

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.” 1 John 4:7-12

- **The Fruit of Love is Evidence we belong to \_\_\_\_\_!**

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup>**By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**” John 13:34-35

### How do I cultivate love? How do I better yield to the Holy Spirit?

- \_\_\_\_\_ **your Life Goal/Destination**  
“Success” for a Christ-follower follows a radically different path than “Success” for a person outside of Christ!
- **Start \_\_\_\_\_**

All Scriptures are from the New International Version Bible. You may comment or ask Bro. Tony questions about this message at: brotony@itawambachristianchurch.org