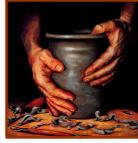


# The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES  
with Pastor Greg Formey



## The Fruit And Gifts Of The Spirit

**Galatians 5:22-26**

February 12, 2017

Jews, intending to trap Jesus, came and posed a dangerous question to Him: **"Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"** But Jesus knew their evil motives. **"You hypocrites!"** he said. **"Why are you trying to trap me? Here, show me the coin used for the tax."** When they handed him a Roman coin, he asked, **"Whose picture and title are stamped on it?"** **"Caesar's,"** they replied. **"Well, then,"** he said, **"give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God."** His reply amazed them, and they went away. (Matthew 22:17-22)

In essence, He was asking them, "Whose image is stamped on you?"

Well, that is the question, isn't it? Who do you belong to? Who do you represent? Who do you imitate? As the passage states, they were amazed and walked away. Don't you feel that way at times? How easy is it for you to demonstrate that God's image is stamped on your life?

If the truth be told, the only way to express God's image is through the **fruit and gifts of the Spirit.**

**Galatians 5:22-26**

**"<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, <sup>23</sup>Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. <sup>24</sup>And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. <sup>25</sup>If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.**

### DEFINING FRUIT AND GIFTS

- The fruit of the Spirit can be defined as the character of God possessed and expressed by a Christian life. In its essence, it is the love of God in all its forms. It is proof that you bear the image of God.
- The gifts of the Spirit are extraordinary capabilities given to Christians by God to improve the lives and solve the problems of others.
- There is no guidance in the Scriptures on how to handle the fruit of the Spirit.  
**"Against such there is no law." (Galatians 5:23)**
- There is much in the Scriptures on how to handle the gifts. They can easily be mishandled.

Both gifts and fruit are supernatural:

- They are not for private purposes. They were given to help others in their journeys.
- They both produce Christlikeness. Fruit in your life, and gifts in others lives
- Both can be imitated by people and by Satan. Discernment will tell you the difference.

Differences between gifts and fruit:

- Gifts tend to be outward, while fruit is inward.

- Gifts appear suddenly. Fruit appears gradually

- Gifts are temporary; they will pass away.

**"<sup>8</sup>...If there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part; <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away."**

Fruit is permanent.

**John 15:16**

**Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain**

- Gifts tend to appear earlier in the believer's life. Fruit develops later.

- Gifts are many. Fruit is one.

- You can have one gift without the others. You cannot have one aspect of the fruit without the others. You will not find all nine fruit in an unbeliever.

Perhaps you feel like giving up, as though you want to sit down and die. The Spirit gave you fruit to lead you to someone in need, so that you can use your gift to the glory of God.