

john 15:4
A b i d e in **ME**



Bible studies for disciples who make disciples

Loudonville Community Church

Volume 6 - Number 18
The week of April 11, 2021

A Life Well Lived
All You Need is Love
Galatians 5:22-23

This week we begin a new sermon series, “*A Life Well Lived*,” and it will be a deep dive into the Fruit of the Spirit as outlined in Galatians 5. Those nine attributes are “life evidences” that the Holy Spirit resides in us and that our lifelong pursuit of becoming more like Christ greatly involves learning to live these attributes in greater degrees as we mature in the Lord. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control are to be the outward markers of a surrendered heart unto God. As your Growth Group studies these verses in Galatians 5 over these next weeks, our hope is that each member of your group will not only be challenged by “*A Life Well Lived*,” but intentionally put into practice what we learn.

STUDY NOTE

This week we will share an overview of Galatians 5:22,23 and also focus in specifically on the first fruit of LOVE. This is the first fruit mentioned because it is the foundation upon which the other “fruits” are built in the life of a Christian.

Read Galatians 5:22,23.

²² “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

1. What is scripture communicating to us in these nine attributes that Paul calls the “Fruit of the Spirit?”

What are they meant to represent in the life of a believer in Jesus?

2. Which one of the nine attributes listed comes easiest to you?

Which one is the most challenging to you?

Read John 13:31-35 and 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a.

John 13:31-35

³¹ “When he had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’”

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

⁴ “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends.”

3. How would Christian relationships (friendships, marriages, working relationships, church unity, etc...) look differently if Christians universally lived what these scriptures teach?

What are the barriers for Christians living the commands of these scriptures?

4. How would the witness of Christians look differently to the unbelieving world, if we demonstrated this love to those that disagree with us?

Read John 3:16 and 1 John 3:16.

John 3:16

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

1 John 3:16

¹⁶ “By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.”

5. What does the extravagantly beautiful and powerful example of God’s love show us about how we are to love others?

How are we to apply this?

Read Matthew 5:43-48

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

6. Share an example of someone (preferably a personal testimony) who loved their enemy as Christ commands here. What was the effect of that love in action?

7. How would the witness of Christians be felt differently to the unbelieving world if we applied Christ’s words?

8. How can you better live these verses in your life?

Final questions:

9. What are the dangers of politicizing how we live out this Fruit of the Spirit?

10. How can you better be defined by LOVE?

What is one practical way that you can demonstrate this Fruit of the Spirit in your life?



Sermon Notes: *All You Need is Love*

Galatians 5:22-23

THE
BIBLE RECAP
BY D-GROUP

Sunday, April 11 thru Saturday, April 17, 2021

1 Samuel 13-14; 1 Samuel 15-17; 1 Samuel 18-20,
Ps. 11, 59; 1 Samuel 21-24; Ps. 7, 27, 31, 34, 52;
1 Chronicles 1-2; Ps. 43-45, 49, 84-85, 87