



SPIRITUAL GROWTH REVIEW

The Fruit of the Spirit Is...

THE SECRETS OF BEING FRUITFUL

Memory Verse for this week: *"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."* Mark 12:29-31

1. How was your week? Was there anything that happened that we would want to celebrate or pray for with you?
2. Did you get a chance to watch the video podcast on love? What were the major takeaways for you from this discussion?
3. What did you think of the Fruit Inspection survey? What were some of your strongest and weakest areas according to the assessment?
4. Read **1 John 4:7-13**. 1 John 4:8 says that God is love (agape). What is a good definition of agape love? How would you put it into words for someone who has never heard about what God has done for them?
5. How have you seen this kind of love lived out in action around you? What does it look like? What might it look like if you were to reach out those around you?
6. Consider **John 15:9-14**. What is the key to growing strong in our ability to love other people?

7. What does it mean for us to abide in the Spirit? Is this possible? How can we consistently carry this out in our daily lives?
8. Look at **Galatians 5:16-17**. How does our flesh relate to the reality of the Spirit of God living in us? Which is stronger? Why does living by the Spirit seem so incredibly difficult to carry out?
9. What happens when a believer chooses to live by the flesh instead of the Spirit? How does breaking His commandments affect our relationship with Him?
10. Read **Matthew 5:43-44**. What are your greatest hangups with loving the people around you? What fears prevent you from reaching out and caring for the needs in the lives of those around you?
11. What makes it so hard for us to see people the way that God sees them? Are you able to do this when you look at people? How do we see beyond people's faults? Consider **Matthew 7:3-5**.
12. What is your best next step that you can take to better love people?
13. Why is love foundational for all of the other fruit of the Spirit? What makes it so special?
14. What is one thing that you plan to do this week to better abide in the Spirit of God?

For this week: Check out the devotionals on love. Memorize the scripture this next week, and do your best to fulfill each daily application! Challenge the others in your group to do the same. Let's make the most of this series and grow into the image of Christ!