



Fruit of the *Spirit*

The Fruit of the Spirit, Part 1

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6. *Agape* love does not seek to please self (v. 5).
7. *Agape* love is not easily angered (v. 5).
8. *Agape* love does not dwell on evil (v. 5; Philippians 4:8).
9. *Agape* love does not take pleasure in sin; nor does it rejoice in the misfortune of others (v. 6; Psalm 1; Galatians 6:1).
10. *Agape* love endures the grossest wrongs (v. 7; Proverbs 10:12; 1 Peter 4:8; Ephesians 4:32).
11. *Agape* love thinks positive of everyone and always yields the benefit of the doubt (v. 7).
12. *Agape* love has a positive outlook (v. 7; Philippians 1:21; Philippians 4:13).
13. *Agape* love survives everything (v. 7; Luke 17:4).
14. *Agape* love never falters or fails. Love is eternal (v. 8).
15. *Agape* love is the greatest force (v. 13)

D. The source of *agape* is God (Galatians 5:22; Romans 5:5; 1 John 4:7-8, 16).

E. The significance of *agape* love

1. Love is the fulfillment of the Law (Matthew 22:37-40; Mark 12:28-34; Romans 13:10; James 2:8).
2. Love is the basis of the Church age (John 3:16; 15:13; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:16; for the brethren).

F. Christ is our supreme example of *agape* love.

1. God's love is an unselfish, sacrificial love (John 3:16; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 5:25; 1 John 3:16; John 15:13).
2. He loved us when we were His enemies (John 3:16; 15:12-13; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9,19).
3. He was loving and forgiving to the very ones who crucified him.

G. We are to have *agape* love.

1. For our fellow Christians (John 13:34; 15:12,13; 1 John 4:20, 21; 4:11).
2. For our neighbors (Matthew 19:19; Mark 12:31).
3. For our enemies (Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-36; Romans 12:20).
4. For our spouse (Ephesians 5:25; Colossians 3:19).