

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

Study Series: The Fruit of the Spirit

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Lesson 4 - Peace

Facilitator: Pastor Bimbola Lawore

Texts: Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 4:6-9, John 14:27, Isaiah 26:3-4

The Nine Elements of the Fruit of the Spirit		
1	Love	Love (Agape) is the kind of love God has for His creation. It is pure, selfless and self-sacrificing; seeking the best for others (even enemies) at all times, at all costs.
2	Joy	The joy here is much deeper than a sense of happiness or gladness from life's circumstances. It is a profound delight and rejoicing that comes from knowing and serving God.
3	Peace	Peace is an unshakeable inner calm that can be a rare quality in turbulent times.
4	Forbearance	Also called longsuffering, forbearance has the common synonym "patience." It also means to delay repayment of a debt.
5	Kindness	Kindness is looking beyond our interests to the interests of others.
6	Goodness	This fruit of the Spirit is an attribute of action. It means living one's life with good morals and motives as well as doing good things for others.
7	Faithfulness	Faithfulness is steadfastness, constancy, or allegiance; it is carefulness in keeping what we are entrusted with.
8	Gentleness	Gentleness is the quality of being kind and careful. The way a Christian engages with others is what the fruit of gentleness is all about.
9	Self-control	Ability to control our thoughts, emotions, and actions.

In today's bible study, we are focusing on the fruit of the spirit PEACE. We will look at a few scriptures on peace to gain more understanding on what peace from God's looks like. We will also reflect on how we can be peacemakers and peace bearers. The word peace was mentioned 230 times in the NIV version of the bible, while it was mentioned 465 times in the KJV version of the bible.

What is Peace?

Peace is an unshakeable inner calm that can be a rare quality in turbulent times. Calmness in your spirit because of assurance. The absence of mental stress or anxiety, not necessarily because of absence of challenges but because of presence of God.

The Hebrew word for peace is Shalom which means harmony, quiet, tranquillity, safety, ease, comfort, calmness, wholeness, completeness.

Galatians 5:22-23

*²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. NIV*

Galatians 5:22-23

*²² But the fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, **[inner] peace**, patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting], kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. AMP*

1. Peace is a promise from God.

John 14:27 ²⁷ *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.* (NIV)

John 16:33 *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”* (NIV)

Question: *What is the difference between peace that the world gives and the peace that God gives?*

2. How to experience God’s peace - Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* NIV

“⁶ Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. NLT

Question: *What hinders us from experiencing peace of God?*

Isaiah 26:3-4 *“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in you. ⁴ Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.”* (NIV)

Isaiah 26:3-4 *“People with their minds set on you, you keep completely whole, Steady on their feet, because they keep at it and don’t quit. 4 Depend on God and keep at it because in the Lord God you have a sure thing.”* (MSG)

Question: *How does the peace of God guard our hearts and mind?*

Romans 8:6-7 ⁶ *The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.* (NIV)

3. How to grow the fruit of peace - Philippians 4:6-9

- Trust God more, present all things to God in prayer and petition.
- Thank God more, have an attitude of thanksgiving towards God, towards life and towards people.
- Think scriptures, sing scriptures, think truth, meditate on God’s promises always.
- Take God’s word as a daily prescription for peace, in any turmoil situation of life, find a scripture that you can apply to the storm you are facing. (Obedience)

John 15:5 *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”*

Conclusion:

Bearing the fruit of peace is a standard every believer in Jesus Christ must desire to attain. It is a mark of living in the Spirit, and it attracts people to become part of the family of God.

1. It is an attribute of God, Isaiah 9:6.
2. It results in a blessed life, Matthew 5:9.
3. It is evidence that we are children of God. Matthew 5:9.
4. It pleases God and it gives us access to God. Hebrews 12:14
5. It is a proof that we are people of the kingdom. Romans 14:17-19