

Love and Joy

Fruit of the Spirit Part 1 | JORDAN BIEL

Intro Story

1. Love is what God is
2. Love without action is only sympathy
3. Love remains
4. Love brings joy

1. Love is what God is

God IS love.

Ephesians 3:16–19 (CSB) — 16 I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love,

18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love, 19 and to know Christ's love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. The Holy Spirit enables believers to live with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:2–3 (CSB) — 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

***See also 2 Co 6:6; Ga 5:14–16; Ga 5:25–26; Php 2:1–2**

Comment

2. Love without action is only sympathy

2 Corinthians 6:6 (CSB) — 6 by purity, by knowledge, by patience, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,

Don't say. I'll pray for you. Pray then and there.
Waitress at Restraunt Friday night w Collens

Love motivated them 4 friends to take their friend to Jesus

The Faith of a Few Friends

the 4 men who brought the lame man to Jesus

Turn to Luke, Chapter 5

Luke 5:10-22 One day while Jesus was teaching, some Pharisees and teachers of religious law were sitting nearby. (It seemed that these men showed up from every village in all Galilee and Judea, as well as from Jerusalem.) And the Lord's healing power was strongly with Jesus.

18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a sleeping mat. They tried to take him inside to Jesus, **19** but they couldn't reach him because of the crowd. So they went up to the roof and took off some tiles. Then they lowered the sick man on his mat down into the crowd, right in front of Jesus. **20** Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven."

21 But the Pharisees and teachers of religious law said to themselves, "Who does he think he is? That's blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

22 Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? **23** Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up and walk'? **24** So I will prove to you that the Son of Man* has the authority on earth to forgive sins."

Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!" **25** And immediately, as everyone watched, the man jumped up, picked up his mat, and went home praising God. **26** Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, "We have seen amazing things today!"

Now I want to break this passage down a bit because there may be a few things you might have missed. I know I did growing up reading this I didn't see the fact that it says "Some men came carrying a paralyzed man".

Other translations don't even say "friends" They all literally just say "some men". "Some guys". Some guys who had compassion basically - what's interesting though is that it did not say "there was a lame man lying on a mat and his brothers picked him up and took him to Jesus."

Now that would make sense bc if you understand Jewish culture - in Hebrew culture - families took care of each other. When the young man was to be married, he'd build an addition onto His father's house. They took care of each their parents in their older age. They had a strong sense of family and commitment to family. BUT they also had a misguided belief that if someone was lame or had an ailment, they often believed it was because of their sin or that they were somehow cursed - so some - not all - but some would be left on the street to beg - discarded and disowned by their own family. As you

can imagine, this left a deep wound in the heart of every young man or woman who was left to fend for themselves, abandoned by their father.

Someone being sick was relegated to the care of the local government or the empathy of people walking by. There was NO guarantee they'd eat every day or even have shelter.

This is why I believe we as American Christians are missing out in part on some miracles today is because when we see someone in need, we may mistakenly think... "Hey I pay taxes, the country, the state, the government will take care of them. I pay taxes. Let the government do it." That sounds cold but I wonder if it's ever been *your* thought?

But no, friend the primary role of the government is to protect you but **Government can not and will not every take the place of the local church - Christians loving the world with Monday morning help - showing empathy and real love to those in need. Who are you taking to Jesus?**

Modern story

Scriptural let Jesus is in you! So, who are you taking Jesus to.

These are fruit of the spirit!

Heartfelt concern and steadfast practical care is part of the evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence in the lives of believers.

The Holy Spirit's work and fruit includes the characteristic of love

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

See also Ac 9:31; Ro 15:30; Col 1:8; 1 Th 4:8–10

Acts 9:31 (CSB) — 31 So the church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.

Romans 15:30 (CSB) — 30 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in prayers to God on my behalf.

Colossians 1:8 (CSB) — 8 and he has told us about your love in the Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 4:8–10 (CSB) — 8 Consequently, anyone who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit. **9** About brotherly love: You don't need me to write you because you yourselves are taught by God to love one another. **10** In fact,

you are doing this toward all the brothers and sisters in the entire region of Macedonia. But we encourage you, brothers and sisters, to do this even more,

The Holy Spirit fills believers with the love of God

Ro 5:5

Romans 5:5 (CSB) — **5** This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

See also Eze 11:19; Eph 3:16–19

Ezekiel 11:19 (CSB) — **19** I will give them integrity of heart and put a new spirit within them; I will remove their heart of stone from their bodies and give them a heart of flesh,

Galatians 5:14–16 (CSB) — **14** For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement: Love your neighbor as yourself. **15** But if you bite and devour one another, watch out, or you will be consumed by one another. **16** I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Galatians 5:25–26 (CSB) — **25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Philippians 2:1–2 (CSB) — **1** If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, **2** make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

The gift of the Holy Spirit results in practical love

Ac 4:31–35

Acts 4:31–35 (CSB) — **31** When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God boldly. **32** Now the entire group of those who believed were of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but instead they held everything in common. **33** With great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was on all of them. **34** For there was not a needy person among them because all those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds of what was sold, **35** and laid them at the apostles' feet. This was then distributed to each person as any had need.

Love without action is only sympathy.

Love is the quintessential sign of a Jesus follower.

3. Love remains.

When miracles stop. Love remains.

When the finances dry up. Love remains.

Think about Jesus and His disciples. For three years they had the time of their lives— How could life get any better than this for these disciples? They were walking with Jesus and got to learn from Him up close and personal. They were healing the sick. They were raising the dead. They

were casting out demons. Every day they got to experience the amazing teaching that Jesus was giving to large crowds. They witnessed miracles where multitudes were fed supernaturally and where storms were calmed by the sound of His voice.

Wow! That was it—that was purpose. They were experiencing destiny like they never had before, like they never had even dreamed of before. They had reached the ultimate goal and purpose for their lives.

At least that's what they thought.

Then suddenly one day, their paradigm was disrupted when Jesus sat them down and spoke the following words: "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away" (John 16:7).

In other words, He told them that the amazing things they were experiencing were going to stop—had to stop. In fact, it would be to their advantage if all of it did stop.

In that moment, Jesus introduced them to a reality much bigger than the limited box they had created for themselves. The paradigm they lived in was about to be crushed in order to show them an advantage they couldn't see from where they were at that time. Sure, life was about as good as it gets in their paradigm. But from where God was sitting, there was more. Much, much more!

Their initial reaction was to quickly forget what they just heard Jesus tell them. They didn't want their current experience to stop. They loved it too much. Besides, what could be better than what they were experiencing? They were living life to the fullest (they thought).

Then, suddenly, it happened again—when they were least expecting it, the "impossible" happened. Jesus actually went away like He had said He would. What's more, one of their own even betrayed Him. In a moment's time they found themselves not in the middle of one of Jesus' incredible ministry adventures but, rather, gathered around a dead body in a tomb where Jesus had been laid to rest.

It's funny how our human minds work. We always tend to default back to what we know, based on our past experiences or the way we were raised or the things we were taught and the culture we grew up in. And that's exactly what the disciples did. They went back to the only thing they knew was "right."

They had grown accustomed to the excitement of Jesus' ministry. All they knew how to do was to be around Him. So when He died, the first thing they did was to have "church" around a dead body. They gathered at the gravesite with myrrh, linen, and perfume. What else could they do? They defaulted back to what they knew, which was to be around Him, wherever He was. And even though He was dead, at least they made Him smell good with all the treatments they were giving Him.

I suppose it gave them a false sense of religious accomplishment.

Then after three days, even that illusion was taken from them. At least within their paradigm it was. They still were failing to see the advantage factor that Jesus had talked with them about! The truth was, Jesus was fully alive and well. Yet they couldn't see that from where they were sitting. He was just outside their current reality, where He was trying to get their attention so He could pull them outside of the box they had built for themselves.

As I was watching this story in the trancelike state I was in, something remarkable happened. It was as if my own life story was laid on top of this scenario I was watching unfold right in front of me. I experienced what the disciples must have experienced as they went through their crisis.

Love is essential in the exercise of the gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Co 13:1–13

1 Corinthians 13:1–13 (CSB) — **1** If I speak human or angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. **2** If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. **3** And if I give away all my possessions, and if I give over my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. **4** Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, **5** is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. **6** Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. **7** It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. **8** Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. **9** For we know in part, and we prophesy in part, **10** but when the perfect comes, the partial will come to an end. **11** When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put aside childish things. **12** For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known. **13** Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love.

See also 1 Co 14:1; 1 Co 14:12; 1 Co 14:26

The fruit of the Holy Spirit will cause you to be childlike and not childish.

1 Corinthians 14:1 (CSB) — **1** Pursue love and desire spiritual gifts, and especially that you may prophesy.

1 Corinthians 14:12 (CSB) — **12** So also you—since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, seek to excel in building up the church.

1 Corinthians 14:26 (CSB) — **26** What then, brothers and sisters? Whenever you come together, each one has a hymn, a teaching, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Everything is to be done for building up.

Joy

Joy of Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit brings joy to believers, giving them an inner contentment and happiness which is not dependent upon external circumstances.

The Holy Spirit enables the Messiah to bring joy

Is 61:1–3

Isaiah 61:1–3 (CSB) — **1** The Spirit of the Lord God is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners; **2** to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of our God's vengeance; to comfort all who mourn, **3** to provide for those who mourn in Zion; to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, festive oil instead of mourning, and splendid clothes instead of despair. **And they will be called righteous trees, planted by the Lord to glorify him.**

See also Is 9:2–3

Isaiah 9:2–3 (CSB) — **2** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; a light has dawned on those living in the land of darkness. **3** You have enlarged the nation and increased its joy. The people have rejoiced before you as they rejoice at harvest time and as they rejoice when dividing spoils.

The Holy Spirit gives joy

To those anticipating Jesus Christ's birth

Lk 1:41–45

Luke 1:41–45 (CSB) — **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped inside her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **42** Then she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and your child will be blessed! **43** How could this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** For you see, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped for joy inside me. **45** Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill what he has spoken to her!"

See also Lk 1:67–68

Luke 1:67–68 (CSB) — **67** Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: **68** Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and provided redemption for his people.

To Jesus Christ

Lk 10:21

Luke 10:21 (CSB) — **21** At that time he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, because this was your good pleasure.

See also Heb 1:9

Hebrews 1:9 (CSB) — **9** You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; this is why God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of joy beyond your companions.

To disciples even in the face of opposition

Ac 13:52

Acts 13:52 (CSB) — **52** And the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

See also Ac 16:25; 1 Th 1:6; 1 Pe 4:13–14

Acts 16:25 (CSB) — 25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

1 Thessalonians 1:6 (CSB) — 6 and you yourselves became imitators of us and of the Lord when, in spite of severe persecution, you welcomed the message with joy from the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 4:13–14 (CSB) — 13 Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed. **14** If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

The Holy Spirit's fruit includes joy

Ga 5:22

Galatians 5:22 (CSB) — 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

See also Ro 14:17; Ro 15:13

Romans 14:17 (CSB) — 17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13 (CSB) — 13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Evidence of the Holy Spirit's work prompts believers to rejoice

Ac 11:15–18

Acts 11:15–18 (CSB) — 15 “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came down on them, just as on us at the beginning. **16** I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ **17** If, then, God gave them the same gift that he also gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, how could I possibly hinder God?” **18** When they heard this they became silent. And they glorified God, saying, “So then, God has given repentance resulting in life even to the Gentiles.”

See also Ac 11:23–24

Acts 11:23–24 (CSB) — 23 When he arrived and saw the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged all of them to remain true to the Lord with devoted hearts, **24** for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And large numbers of people were added to the Lord.