



## Bible Topics

# THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

**Course Text: Galatians 5:1-25**

**Focus Text: Galatians 5:22-23**

<u>Lesson</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	Live by the Spirit
2	Love
3	Joy
4	Peace
5	Patience
6	Kindness
7	Goodness
8	Faithfulness (or Faith)
9	Gentleness
10	Self-Control



After a brief look in Lesson 1 at Galatians chapter 5, to understand the context, we are going to study each of the fruits of the Spirit in some detail, not just in regards to what this chapter says about them, but other places in the Bible that mention the same attribute.

### Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the lesson's text aloud from the Bible. (... or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer if it is based on Scripture.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak.**
7. Discuss your "Think & Pray" answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting, or consider breaking into two groups. The final "Think & Pray" question should always be covered, because that is when everyone takes a quiet moment to listen to the Teacher, the Holy Spirit. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called "For Further Thought"

If you are using this with a pen pal please notice that lesson 1 is twice as long as the others.

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**Lesson 1 – Live by the Spirit**

[1A] According to Galatians 5:1 for what did Christ set us free? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Galatians 5:13-26 and answer these eleven questions:

[1B] What are we not to do with our freedom? \_\_\_\_\_

[1C] What phrase is a summary of the whole law? \_\_\_\_\_

[1D] If we walk by the Spirit what will we not do? \_\_\_\_\_

[1E] What are in opposition to one another? \_\_\_\_\_

[1F] Who is not subject to the Law? \_\_\_\_\_

[1G] What is evident or obvious? \_\_\_\_\_

[1H] Is the list of deeds of the flesh found here complete? \_\_\_\_\_

[1I] What is not unlawful? \_\_\_\_\_

[1J] Those belonging to Jesus do what with the flesh? \_\_\_\_\_

[1K] If we live by the Spirit what else are we to do? \_\_\_\_\_

[1L] If we compare the list in Galatians 5:19-21 with the list in Galatians 5:22-23 what can we see is opposite about them as Paul suggests in 5:17? (The charts & lists on pages 5 and 6 might help you.)

I've done the first couple for you:

immorality vs. goodness

impurity vs. self-control

sensuality vs. \_\_\_\_\_

idolatry vs. \_\_\_\_\_

sorcery vs. \_\_\_\_\_

enmities vs. \_\_\_\_\_

strife vs. \_\_\_\_\_

jealousy vs. \_\_\_\_\_

outbursts of anger vs. \_\_\_\_\_

disputes vs. \_\_\_\_\_

dissensions vs. \_\_\_\_\_

factions vs. \_\_\_\_\_

envying vs. \_\_\_\_\_

drunkenness vs. \_\_\_\_\_

carousing vs. \_\_\_\_\_

[1M] What is the best way to avoid doing the things in the list in Galatians 5:19-21? (Hint: Rom 12:21)

Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_

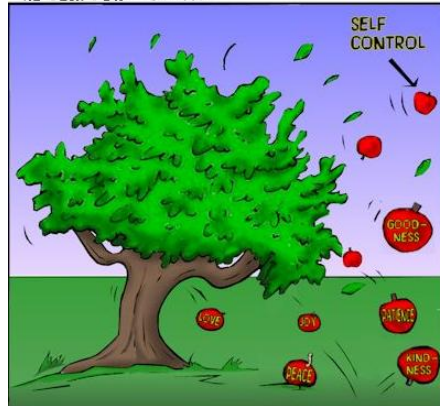
\_\_\_\_\_

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



THE FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. **Galatians 5:22**  
hmmmm.. my peace appears a bit withered.

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



Ever had a 'bad hair day'? How about a 'bad fruit of the spirit day'? Windblown, and frazzled. No peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, love, joy, self control, goodness, or faithfulness to be found. **Gal 5:22**

----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 1 – Live by the Spirit**

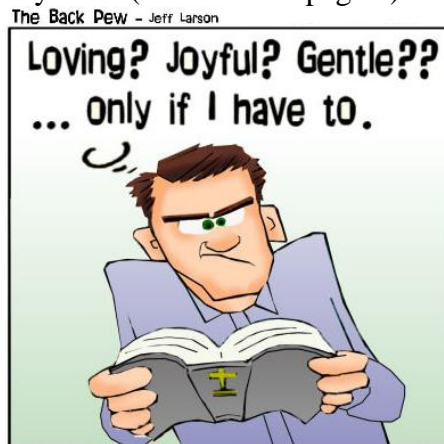
- [1A] According to Galatians 5:1 for what did Christ set us free? Freedom or liberty
- [1B] What are we *not* to do with our freedom? Turn it into an opportunity for the flesh Gal 5:13
- [1C] What phrase is a summary of the whole law? You shall love your neighbor as yourself Gal 5:14
- [1D] If we walk by the Spirit what will we not do? Carry out the desire of the flesh Gal 5:16
- [1E] What are in opposition to one another? The Spirit and the flesh Gal 5:17
- [1F] Who is not subject to the Law? Those led by the Spirit Gal 5:18
- [1G] What is evident or obvious? The deeds of the flesh Gal 5:19
- [1H] Is the list of deeds of the flesh found here complete? No, "... and things like these" Gal 5:21
- [1I] What is *not* unlawful? The fruit of the Spirit Gal 5:22-23
- [1J] Those belonging to Jesus do what with the flesh? Crucify it (+ passions and desires) Gal 5:24
- [1K] If we live by the Spirit what else are we to do? Walk by the Spirit Gal 5:25

- |                             |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| [1L] In my opinion:         | jealousy vs. love                   |
| immorality vs. goodness     | outbursts of anger vs. self-control |
| impurity vs. self-control   | disputes vs. patience               |
| sensuality vs. self-control | dissensions vs. kindness            |
| idolatry vs. faithfulness   | factions vs. peace                  |
| sorcery vs. joy             | envying vs. love                    |
| enmities vs. love           | drunkenness vs. self-control        |
| strife vs. gentleness       | carousing vs. joy                   |

[1M] It is a lot easier to decide to love someone than it is to decide not to hate them. It is lot easier embrace joy and rejoice in the Lord than it is to stop taking drugs with nothing to replace them. None of us can avoid our own flesh, but if we seek to be led by the Spirit, we avoid being a slave to our flesh.

**For further thought:**

- (1n) Compare Colossians 3:1-17 with Galatians 5:13-26. What did you learn?
- (1o) Compare Romans 12:9-21 with Galatians 5:13-26. What is the same? What is different?
- (1p) Compare Galatians 5:1 and Galatians 5:13 with 1 Corinthians 6:12 and 1 Corinthians 10:23. What did you learn?
- (1q) Some theologians think that Paul and James taught opposite doctrines. Compare Galatians 5:14 with James 2:8. What do you think?
- (1r) Compare Romans 8:12-17 with Galatians 5:16-18. What did you learn?
- (1s) Check Galatians 5:19-21 in KJV and several modern versions. Do you think murder should be included on the list? Why or why not? (See chart on page 5)



THE FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT should define us as Christians, and can never be reduced to a TO-DO-LIST Galatians 5:22

DEEDS OF THE FLESH KJV = King James Version, NASB = New American Standard Bible

<b>KJV word NASB word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>KJV word NASB word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Adultery Immorality	intimate relations with someone you are not married to, or wanting it	Wrath Angry Outburst	Uncontrolled anger
Fornication Immorality	illicit sexual intercourse	Strife Disputes	Controlled but unjustified anger
Uncleanness Impurity	the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living or desire for it	Seditions Dissensions	Hatred, wrath or strife directed at a group you are in or your leadership.
Lasciviousness Sensuality	unbridled lust, licentiousness, outrageousness, shamelessness	Heresies Factions	Teaching or preaching things contrary to God's truth
Idolatry	the worship of false gods,	Envyings Envy	desiring the situation, relationships, or belongings of someone else.
Witchcraft Sorcery	the illicit use of chemicals	Murder	killing someone else for personal reasons
Hatred Enimities	the feeling of one who hates; intense dislike or extreme or hostility	(Interesting note. Many ancient manuscripts do not include murder on the list and some scholars think it wasn't in the original. Maybe, maybe not?)	
Variance Strife	contention, strife, wrangling	Drunkenness Drunkenness	intoxication
Emulations Jealousy	fierceness of indignation, punitive zeal, contentious rivalry, jealousy	Revelings Carousing	an all night party, particularly one that moves about

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Love	- [agape] love in action, wanting good for others and doing something about it
Joy	- happiness, gladness
Peace	- freedom of the mind from annoyance, distraction, anxiety, an obsession, etc.; tranquillity; serenity.
Patience	- enduring injury, trouble, or provocation long and patiently.
Kindness	- kindly; amiable, not severe, rough, or violent; mild, moderate
Goodness	- moral excellence; virtue.
Faithfulness	- confidence or trust in God
Gentleness	- mildness, being careful with the feelings of others
Self-control	- moderation or self-restraint in action, statement, etc.; temperance

## **Examples of Deeds of the Flesh**

*Immorality* - having intimate relations with someone you are not married to, or wanting to, flirting, voyeurism which includes pornography but is not limited to it, sexual fantasies, fornication

*Impurity* - the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living or the motivation to do so, constantly seeking entertainment - going to shows, parties, computer games, eating for the fun of it, TV, movies, even reading fiction if it is done in excess.

*Sensuality* - lasciviousness, unbridled lust, licentiousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence, mooning someone, telling dirty jokes, doing unseemly things just to shock people like that couple that had sex in a church in New York for a publicity stunt.

*Idolatry* - the worship of false gods: Greed: a worship of Mammon or money, Gambling: the worship of fate and fortune, Consulting spiritualists, fortune tellers and the like, Superstitions: Good luck Charms or talismans, Lucky socks, Rabbits foot, Fear of Friday the 13th or Black Cats, Knocking on wood, Chanting magic spells, Voodoo, Some forms of Yoga or TM, also includes self-worship

*Sorcery* - (our word pharmacy comes from the Greek for this) the illicit use of chemicals, LSD and other hallucinogens, Methamphetamines and other uppers, Marijuana or other hypnotics, Using drugs or food to alter your mood, Drugging others without their knowledge

*Enmities* - the feeling of one who hates; intense dislike or extreme aversion or hostility, racial bigotry, contempt for others not like yourself, desiring to hurt someone, malice, joy at the misfortune of others, considering anyone your personal enemy, hoping or wishing someone will die or had never existed

*Strife* - contention, strife, wrangling, deliberately starting fights or arguments just for the fun of it, disagreeing just for the sake of disagreeing because you are in a bad mood

*Jealousy* - fierce indignation, punitive zeal, contentious rivalry, taking revenge, unforgiveness

*Outbursts of Anger* - Uncontrolled anger, hitting or otherwise trying to hurt people out of anger, destroying things out of anger, cussing someone out, giving them a piece of your mind, making rude gestures at other drivers on the road

*Disputes* - Controlled but unjustified anger, Scheming, Back biting, Malicious gossip, Stirring up trouble, Belittling, demeaning, or insulting someone

*Dissensions* - Hatred or strife directed at an organization you are part of or your legitimate leadership. Trying to cause strife in divisions in your work place, church, school, or community, Complaining about your boss, teacher, preacher, etc., Not doing your job or your duty

*Factions* - Teaching or preaching things contrary to God's truth, in this context it is probably particularly talking about doing so to stir up trouble at a church

*Envyings* - coveting the situation, relationships, or belongings of someone else. It is not talking about admiring what others have. It is not talking about the ambition to improve yourself without being greedy. Dissatisfaction, grumbling, griping and complaining.

*Drunkenness* - intoxication, Using alcohol, barbiturates, or other drugs that impair judgment, sensory acuity, or physical ability

*Carousing* - an all night party, particularly one that moves about, Driving around in a car all night for no particular reason, Attending a Rave, Driving around in a car throwing stuff out the window and yelling at pedestrians, Driving around in a car busting mail boxes

"AND THINGS LIKE THESE" THIS LIST IS NOT COMPLETE!!!!

**Lesson 2 – Love** - desiring good for someone else and doing something about it

Please read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and answer the following questions:

[2A] Without what are angelic languages just noise? \_\_\_\_\_

[2B] If we perform great miracles but are still nothing, what is missing? \_\_\_\_\_

[2C] What keeps great sacrifice from being spiritually profitable? \_\_\_\_\_

[2D] What is patient and kind? \_\_\_\_\_

[2E] What is not provoked? \_\_\_\_\_

[2F] What rejoices in truth? \_\_\_\_\_

[2G] What endures all things? \_\_\_\_\_

[2H] What never fails? \_\_\_\_\_

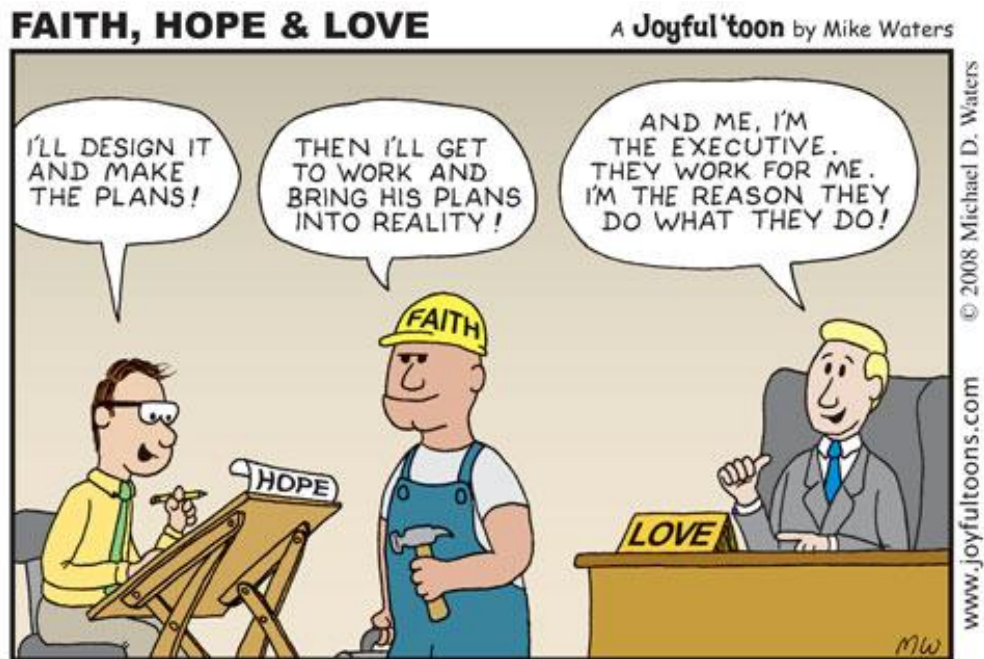
[2I] When will the partial or incomplete be done away with? \_\_\_\_\_

[2J] What do we do when we become mature? \_\_\_\_\_

[2K] In the end, how much will we know? \_\_\_\_\_

[2L] 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:13 says that love is greater than faith and hope. Why do you think love is the greatest?

Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. - 1 CORINTHIANS 13:13 NIV

----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 2 – Love**

- [2A] Without what are angelic languages just noise? Love 1Co 13:1
- [2B] If we perform great miracles but are still nothing, what is missing? Love 1Co 13:2
- [2C] What keeps great sacrifice from being spiritually profitable? Lack of love 1Co 13:3
- [2D] What is patient and kind? Love 1Co 13:4
- [2E] What is not provoked? Love 1Co 13:5
- [2F] What rejoices in truth? Love 1Co 13:6
- [2G] What endures all things? Love 1Co 13:7
- [2H] What never fails? Love 1Co 13:8
- [2I] When will the partial or incomplete be done away with? When the perfect comes 1Co 13:10
- [2J] What do we do when we become mature? Do away with childish things 1Co 13:11
- [2K] In the end, how much will we know? We will know fully 1Co 13:12
  
- [2L] God's word says love is the greatest so it is. The Bible is not explicit as to why, so anything we say is speculation. In my opinion, when we reach heaven our hopes will be realized and our faith fulfilled. Faith and hope will no longer be necessary, but love will be. Similarly before the creation God loved us enough to bring us into existence, so love existed before faith and hope. In fact it is His love that gives birth to our faith and hope. Perhaps the best reason is what it says in 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:16, "God is love."

**For further thought:**

(2m) Is love an action or a feeling?

(2n) What could you add to this list of examples of love in action:

- Giving gifts
- Sharing food
- Encouraging words
- Sympathetic listening ears
- Intercessory prayer and corporate prayer
- Protecting a neighbor's person, property, and reputation as you would your own
- Worshiping God, especially in fellowship with other believers
- Reading and studying His word, especially in fellowship with other believers
- Spending your time with other believers

Which of these have you already put into action and which ones are you going to?

(2o) Please read and discuss 1 John 4:7-21.

(2p) What does the phrase "God is love" in 1 John 4:16 mean?

(2q) Is it optional for followers of God to love others? How do you know?

(2r) Use a concordance to look up the word "love" in the Bible. It appears almost 500 times. Read and discuss some of these.

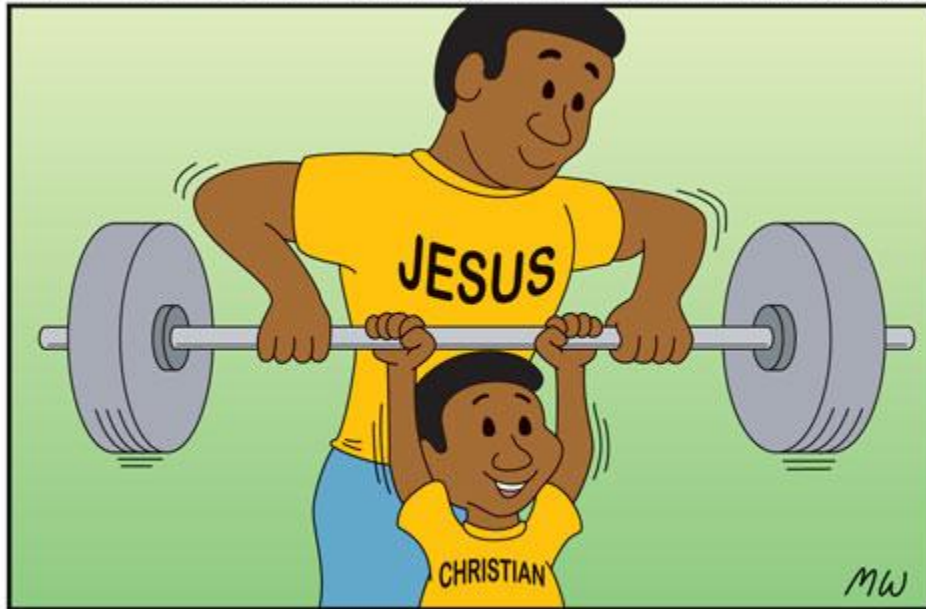


Lesson 3 – Joy – happiness, enjoyment, gladness

Please read Philippians 2:1-18 and answer the following nine questions:

- [3A] What does Paul ask be done to make his joy complete? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3B] Who are we to regard more important? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3C] Whose attitude are we to imitate? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3D] How obedient was Jesus to God's will? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3E] How high is the name of Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3F] Who is at work in us? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3G] We are to do all things without what? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3H] Even though things were bad for Paul he still did what? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3I] What did Paul ask Philippians to do? \_\_\_\_\_

**THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH** A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



I can do everything through him who gives me strength.  
– PHILIPPIANS 4:13 NIV

[3J] In Philippians 4:8-13 Paul exhorts his readers to rejoice regardless of circumstances. He gives them some hints how they can do this and promises them something if they do what he says. How can we rejoice even in bad times and what are we promised if we do?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

----- ANSWERS -----

*Lesson 3 – Joy*

- [3A] What does Paul ask be done to make his joy complete? Unity "... being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose." Phl 2:1-2
- [3B] Who are we to regard more important? One another Phl 2:3-4
- [3C] Whose attitude are we to imitate? Christ Jesus Phl 2:5-7
- [3D] How obedient was Jesus to God's will? Obedient to death Phl 2:8
- [3E] How high is the name of Jesus Christ? Above all the others Phl 2:9-11
- [3F] Who is at work in us? God Phl 2:12-13
- [3G] We are to do all things without what? Grumbling or Disputing Phl 2:14-16
- [3H] Even though things were bad for Paul he still did what? Rejoiced and shared his joy Phl 2:17
- [3I] What did Paul ask Philippians to do? Rejoice and share their joy Phl 2:18 Implying we should do so regardless of our circumstances. (See also 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

[3J] We are to pray with thanksgiving. In order to be truly thankful and avoid worry we are to think about the truth, what is honorable, what is right, what is pure, what is beautiful, what good news we hear, anything excellent, and anything worthy of praise. If we focus our attention on these things we won't have time to worry, complain, gripe, or grumble and the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

**For further thought:**

(3k) Philippians 4:8. Give an example of each of these:

- Something true - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something honorable - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something righteous - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something pure - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something lovely - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something good to hear - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something excellent - \_\_\_\_\_
- Something worthy of praise - \_\_\_\_\_

(3l) Is joy a feeling or an attitude?

(3m) Which of these choices or actions might lead to joy?

- Deciding to be satisfied
- Deciding to be delighted with your circumstances
- Discovering the good in others
- Admiring God's creation
- Enjoying music
- Deciding to be pleased with the entertainment you have

What actions or choices could you add to this list?

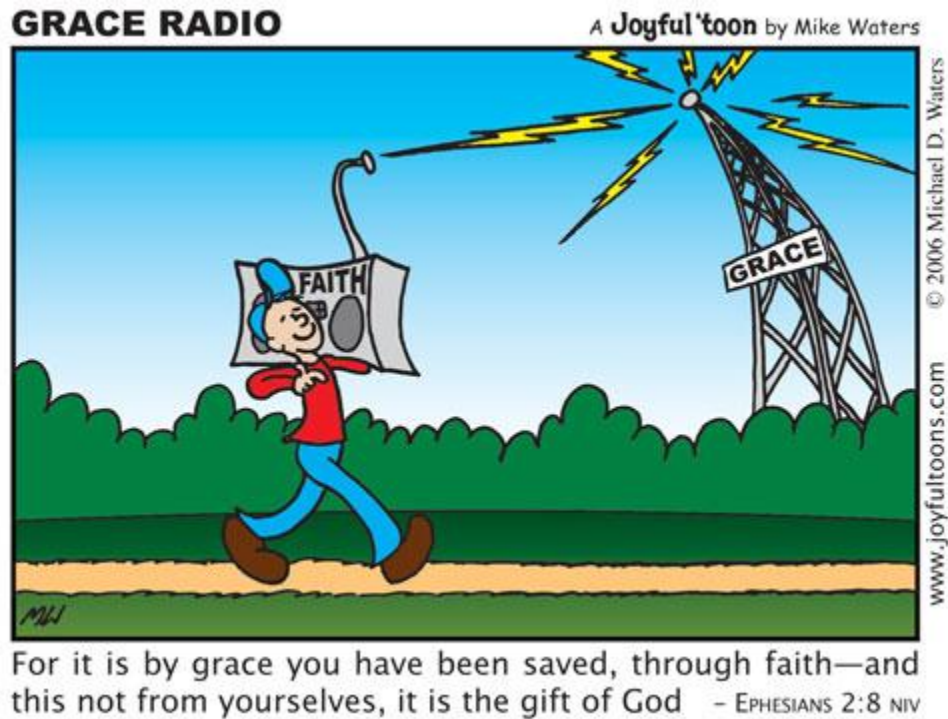
Which of these decisions have you made or which of these actions have you taken?

(3n) Use a concordance to look up the words "rejoice" and/or "joy." The word "joy" appears over 200 times in the Bible and the word "rejoice" almost as many times. Read and discuss some of these.

Lesson 4 – **Peace** - freedom of the mind from annoyance, distraction, anxiety, etc.; tranquility; serenity. An end of violent hostility. An absence of conflict.

Please read Ephesians 2:1-22 and answer these questions:

- [4A] We used to follow the spirit that is now working in the sons of what? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4B] Formerly we indulged what? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4C] God made us alive together with Who? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4D] What did we do to deserve salvation? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4E] Why did He create us in Christ Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4F] Who did we used to be separate from? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4G] What brought us near? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4H] Who is our peace? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4I] When we are united what does it establish? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4J] What was put to death on the cross? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4K] Who is the corner stone? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4L] We are being built into what? \_\_\_\_\_



[4M] In Ephesians 2:10 it says God saved us so that we could do good things. What do you suppose will happen if we decide not to do good things? Do you think God will just shrug and say, "Well, I guess I shouldn't have saved that one."? (Hints: Hebrews 12:4-17 and 2 Chronicles 33:10-16)

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 4 – Peace**

- [4A] We used to follow the spirit that is now working in the sons of what? Disobedience Ep 2:1-2
- [4B] Formerly we indulged what? The desires of the flesh and mind Ep 2:3
- [4C] God made us alive together with Who? Christ Ep 2:4-7
- [4D] What did we do to deserve salvation? Nothing Ep 2:8-9
- [4E] Why did He create us in Christ Jesus? To do good Ep 2:10 How do you "walk" in good works?
- [4F] Who did we used to be separate from? Christ Ep 2:11-12
- [4G] What brought us near? The blood of Christ Ep 2:13
- [4H] Who is our peace? Jesus Christ Ep 2:13-14
- [4I] When we are united what does it establish? Peace Ep 2:15 Peace with the Lord and each other
- [4J] What was put to death on the cross? Enmity Ep 2:16
- [4K] Who is the corner stone? Christ Jesus Ep 2:20
- [4L] We are being built into what? A holy temple, a dwelling for God Ep 2:19-22
- [4M] I believe we will have no peace until we get on God's path for our life.

**For further thought:**

(4n) What can you add to these decisions that lead to peace?

- Deciding not to be angry
- Deciding to not be upset
- Deciding not to hold a grudge
- Forgiving others

Which of these decisions are normal for you, and which do you need to add to your habits of thought?

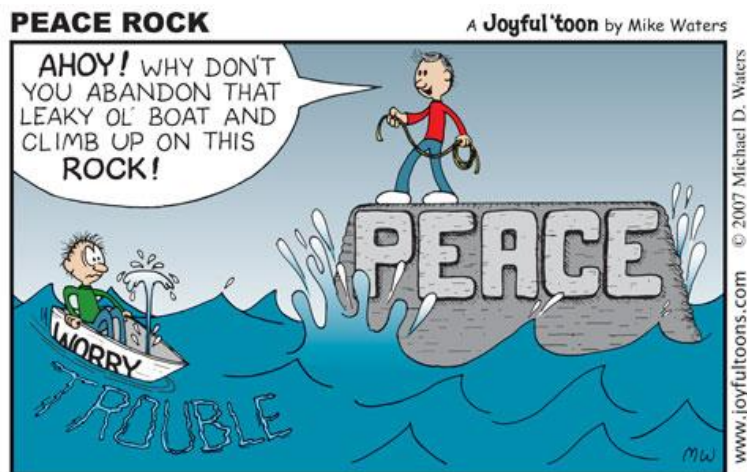
(4o) Compare Isaiah 57:19 and Ephesians 2:17. What is Isaiah 57 talking about?

(4p) Psalm 122 urges the reader to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Do you? Why or why not?

(4q) Compare Hebrews 12:4-17 and 2 Chronicles 33:10-16. Do you think the passage in 2 Chronicles is an example of what it is talking about in Hebrews? Why or why not?

(4r) Read about "peace offerings" in Leviticus 7:11 or Numbers 7:77. Learn anything?

(4s) Use a concordance to look up the word "peace." It appears over 350 times in the Bible. Read and discuss some of them.



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.

- JOHN 16:33 NIV

Lesson 5 – **Patience** - enduring injury, trouble, or provocation long and patiently. Longsuffering.

Read James 5:7-11 and answer the following five questions:

[5A] How long are we to be patient? \_\_\_\_\_

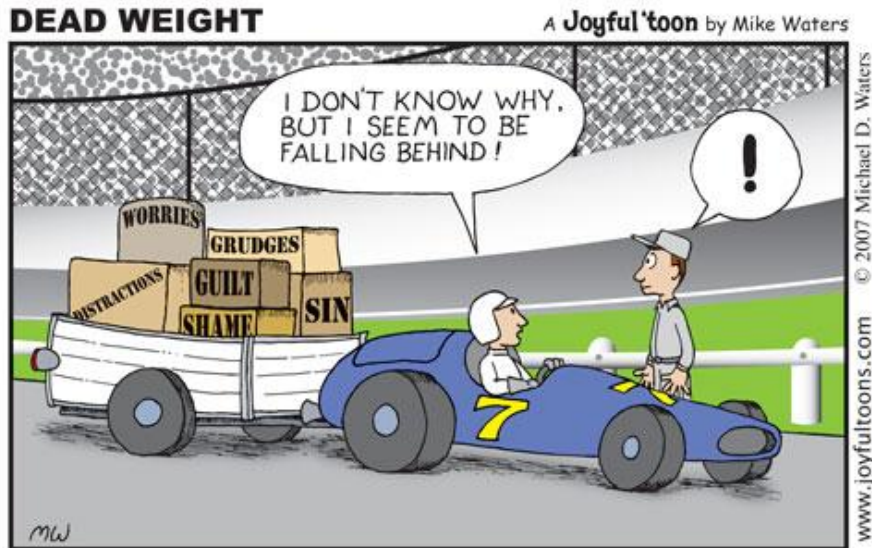
[5B] How close is the coming of the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

[5C] Who are we not to complain about? \_\_\_\_\_

[5D] Who are held up as examples of patience? \_\_\_\_\_

[5E] What is the Lord full of? \_\_\_\_\_

[5F] According to 1 Thessalonians 5:14 we are to show patience to whom? \_\_\_\_\_



let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.  
- HEBREWS 12:1 NIV

[5G] In Hebrews 12:1-3 remembering Christ's endurance on the cross should keep us from doing what? \_\_\_\_\_

[5H] In Hebrews 6:13-15 when did Abraham receive what was promised? \_\_\_\_\_

[5I] What does Isaiah 40:31 promise? \_\_\_\_\_

[5J] In Psalm 37:7 who are we to ignore while waiting patiently for the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

[5K] In Psalm 40:1 what happened after waiting patiently for the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

[5L] In Jeremiah 15:15 for whose sake did Jeremiah endure reproach? \_\_\_\_\_

[5M] In 1 Corinthians 9:12 why does Paul endure all things? \_\_\_\_\_

[5N] In Colossians 1:11 Paul and Timothy are praying for us to have patience. (See Col 1:1 & 1:9) Does this imply that having patience is something God gives us? If so, how does He do that? How do you know? (Hint: James 1:2-4)

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 5 – Patience

Read James 5:7-11 and answer the following five questions:

[5A] How long are we to be patient? Until the coming of the Lord Jm 5:7

[5B] How close is the coming of the Lord? It is near Jm 5:8

[5C] Who are we not to complain about? Each other Jm 5:9

[5D] Who are held up as examples of patience? The farmer, the prophets, and Job Jm 5:7; 10-11

[5E] What is the Lord full of? Compassion Jm 5:11. He is also merciful

[5F] According to 1 Thessalonians 5:14 we are to show patience to whom? Everyone

[5G] In Hebrews 12:1-3 remembering Christ's endurance on the cross should keep us from doing what?  
Growing weary and losing heart.

[5H] In Hebrews 6:13-15 when did Abraham receive what was promised? After he patiently waited

[5I] What does Isaiah 40:31 promise? Those who wait on the Lord will be strengthened (See also Lam 3:25)

[5J] In Psalm 37:7 who are we to ignore while waiting patiently for the Lord? Evil people

[5K] In Psalm 40:1 what happened after waiting patiently for the Lord? His prayer was heard

[5L] In Jeremiah 15:15 for whose sake did Jeremiah endure reproach? The Lord's

[5M] In 1 Corinthians 9:12 why does Paul endure all things? So that the Gospel will not be hindered

[5N] Yes it does imply patience is something God gives to us, as Gal 5:22-23 also suggests. God might just allow you to be born with a patient personality. He might decide to miraculously place patience within you. However, I think for most of us the path to patience is a bit more difficult. See James 1:2-4.

**For further thought:**

(5o) What other decisions can you add to this list that might demonstrate patience?

Deciding not to fight

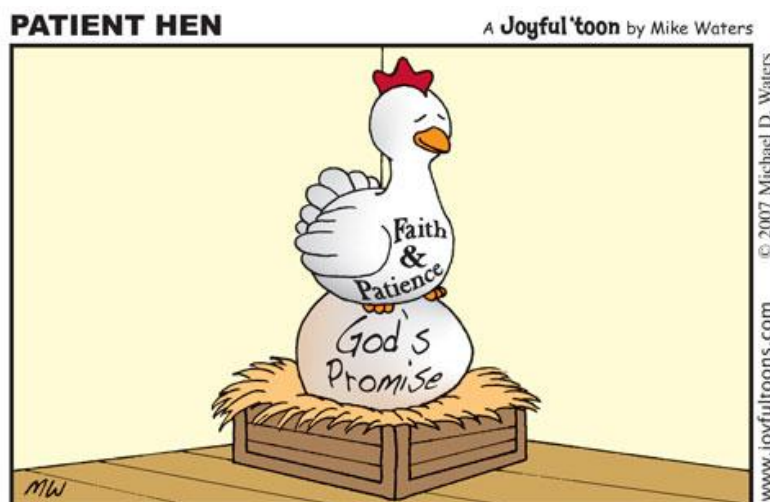
Deciding not to argue

Deciding not to complain

Which of these decisions are a habit for you, and which are not? Why?

(5p) What does 2 Timothy 2:10 mean? If God has chosen them, why is it necessary for Paul to endure anything?

(5q) Use a concordance to look up various forms of the words "patient" and "endure." I found over a hundred verses. Read and discuss some of them.



We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.  
- HEBREWS 6:12 NIV

Lesson 6 – **Kindness** - kindly; being kind, goodness, gentleness

Please read the following passages and answer the associated questions.

[6A] Rom 2:4 – What does the kindness of God lead to? \_\_\_\_\_

[6B] Rom 3:12 – How many do good? \_\_\_\_\_

[6C] Rom 11:22 – Kindness is contrasted with what other characteristic of God? \_\_\_\_\_

[6D] Eph 2:7 – How much longer does God plan to show us kindness? \_\_\_\_\_

[6E] Col 3:12-13 – Kindness here is in a list of attributes we are to put where? \_\_\_\_\_

[6F] Titus 3:4 – What is "our Savior and His love for mankind" called? \_\_\_\_\_

[6G] Ps 34:14 – We are to leave evil and do what instead? \_\_\_\_\_

[6H] Ps 37:3 – We are to trust God and do what? \_\_\_\_\_

[6I] Ps 37:27 – If we depart from evil and do good, what are we promised? \_\_\_\_\_



I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. – 2 CORINTHIANS 6:2 NIV

[6J] In 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6:1-10 in verse 6 we find "kindness" in a list of attributes in some ways similar to the one in Galatians 5:22-23. However, the context is different. In Galatians 5 the list is offered as attributes we need to have to avoid falling into the deeds of the flesh also listed. In 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6 it seems to have a different purpose. What purpose? What implication does that have for us?

Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_  
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----- ANSWERS -----

*Lesson 6 – Kindness*

- [6A] Rom 2:4 – What does the kindness of God lead to? Repentance
- [6B] Rom 3:12 – How many do good? None ("Do good" here is from the Greek term usually translated "kindness" but here they apparently wanted to keep it consistent with the way they translated the Old Testament.)
- [6C] Rom 11:22 – Kindness is contrasted with what other characteristic of God? Severity
- [6D] Eph 2:7 – How much longer does God plan to show us kindness? In the ages to come
- [6E] Col 3:12-13 – Kindness here is in a list of attributes we are to put where? Our hearts
- [6F] Titus 3:4 – What is "our Savior and His love for mankind" called? The kindness of God
- [6G] Ps 34:14 – We are to leave evil and do what instead? Good
- [6H] Ps 37 3 – We are to trust God and do what? Good
- [6I] Ps 37:27 – If we depart from evil and do good, what are we promised? We will abide forever

[6J] The purpose is given in 2 Cor 6:3, "giving no cause for offense in anything, so that the ministry will not be discredited." Anything beyond that quickly becomes speculation, but in my opinion the implication is clear. When we become Christians we are in some sense taking the Lord's name or the Lord's reputation. We need to act in a way that is consistent with His reputation as an act of worship and to glorify his "name" so that others well be drawn to Him and be saved. Showing kindness is one of those things which is consistent with God's nature.

The Greek word here translated "kindness" is one of those difficult concepts without an exact equivalent in English. The consequence of that is that it gets translated in a variety of ways by different scholars based on their best understanding of the context. It is sometimes translated goodness or even gentleness. The idea behind the Greek term as best I understand it, is to do something useful for the benefit of someone else. The New American Standard is consistent in translating the Greek word "kindness" except in Romans 3:12, but every time the word "kindness" appears it is not from the same Greek word. Similarly, in the Old Testament the corresponding term is consistently translated "do good" or "does good" but there is another Hebrew term also translated "do good." All you need to remember from these comments in Greek is that in the questions above I have selected only those verses which correspond to Galatians 5:22 in the original languages.

**For further thought:**

- (6k) Do you have a tendency to jump to conclusions? Is that kind? So what?
- (6l) When you have the authority and responsibility to discipline others how do you decide when and how best to do that?
- (6m) Do you try to avoid hurting the feelings of other people? How?
- (6n) What are some examples of kindness being demonstrated? Which of these do you do? Why?
- (6o) In Isaiah 40:11 do we see an example of God's kindness? Why or why not?



Lesson 7 – **Goodness** - moral excellence; virtue; pleasant, excellent, useful, honorable

Please read the following passages and answer the associated questions.

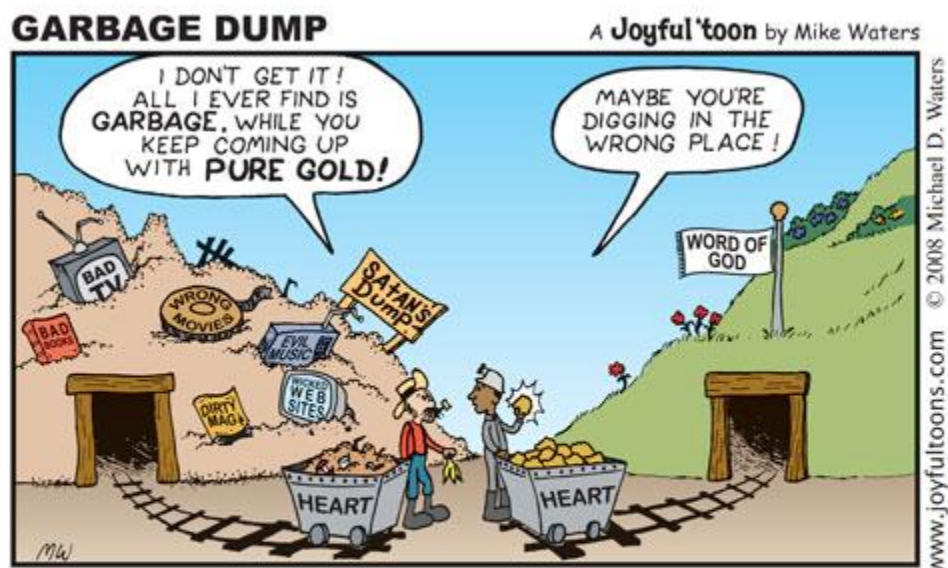
[7A] In Matthew 13:3-9, 13:18-23; what is the difference between the good soil and the other soils? \_\_\_\_\_

[7B] In Matthew 13:24-30, 13:36-43 what happens to the tares crop? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Tares were a useless, fruitless plant that looked similar to wheat )

[7C] In Galatians 6:7-10 are we to treat Christians differently? \_\_\_\_\_

[7D] In Luke 6:27 what are we to do for those who hate us? \_\_\_\_\_

[7E] In Luke 6:43-45 what is the same about trees and people? \_\_\_\_\_



The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.  
- LUKE 6:45 NIV

[7F] In John 10:11-18 what does a good shepherd do? \_\_\_\_\_

[7G] In Hebrews 13:16 what does the writer call sharing and doing good? \_\_\_\_\_

[7H] In 1 Timothy 6:12-19 the word "good" is used six times. Does it always mean the same thing? Explain.

Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_  
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----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 7 – Goodness**

- [7A] In Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23; what is the difference between the good soil and the other soils?  
The good soil grows an abundant crop which matures to fruitfulness. Mt 13:8 & 23.
- [7B] In Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-43 what happens to the tares crop? It is burned Mt 13:30, 41-42
- [7C] In Galatians 6:7-10 are we to treat Christians differently? Yes, extra good Gal 6:10
- [7D] In Luke 6:27 what are we to do for those who hate us? Good
- [7E] In Luke 6:43-45 what is the same about trees and people?  
Good comes from good, bad comes from bad.
- [7F] In John 10:11-18 what does a good shepherd do? He lays down his life for the sheep (Verses 11, 15, 17-18)
- [7G] IN Hebrews 13:16 what does the writer call sharing and doing good? Sacrifices
- [7H] A lot of this is a matter of opinion. Her are my opinions:  
1 Timothy 6:12. "Good fight of faith" means to live in righteousness  
1 Timothy 6:12 & 13 "Good confession" means to tell the truth.  
1 Timothy 6:18 "Do good" means to be righteous and moral in behavior.  
1 Timothy 6:18 "Good works" means to be kind and charitable to others in concrete ways.  
1 Timothy 6:19 "Storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future" means transferring their earthly riches into heavenly riches by spending their earthly wealth on showing the love of God to others.

The Greek word translated "goodness" in Galatians 5:22 has the same ambiguity as the corresponding English term. Sometimes it means "moral righteousness" and sometimes it means "the right thing for some purpose, useful, reliable, beneficial" Since the context in Galatians 5 is a list, it is very difficult to say for sure which is meant in this case. In my opinion, because the preceding term had to do with doing useful things for the benefit of others, I take "goodness" here to mean "moral righteousness", since "usefulness" was covered to some extent in the previous term. On the other hand, Greek had a more concise term for righteousness, which Paul could have used if the distinction was important.

**For further thought:**

- (7i) Mark 10:18 and Luke 18:19 both say, "And Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.'" What does this mean?
- (7j) What can you add to this list of "good" deeds?  
Doing your duty  
Doing what is right, especially when it would be more convenient to do wrong  
Obeying His word to the best of your understanding  
Always telling the truth  
Which of these do you do? What is your plan for doing good in the future?
- (7k) What does Romans 7:12-25 mean?
- (7l) Compare Ephesians 5:1-21 with Galatians 5:16-26. What is the same? What is different?
- (7m) Is the "goodness" in Galatians 5:22 and the "goodness" in Jeremiah 31:14 and Hosea 3:5 the same thing, or not? Why?
- (7n) Use a concordance to look up and discuss passages containing the word "good". "Good", or some form of the word "good", appears over 650 times in the Bible. However, you need to be aware that sometimes it means good as in "useful" or "good for something," and sometimes it means good as in "moral" or "righteous." Sometimes it may mean both.

Lesson 8 – Faithfulness (or Faith) – showing confidence or trust, loyal, reliable

Please read the following passages and answer the associated questions.

[8A] According to Hebrews 11:1 what is faith? \_\_\_\_\_

[8B] According to Deuteronomy 32:4 is faithfulness an attribute of God? \_\_\_\_\_

[8C] In Luke 16:10-13 what are we not able to do? \_\_\_\_\_

[8D] What promise do we find in Revelation 2:10? \_\_\_\_\_

[8E] In James 1:2-3 what does faith produce? \_\_\_\_\_



Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. — JAMES 1:2-3 NIV

Read James 2:14-26 and answer the following questions:

[8F] Is faith without works useful? \_\_\_\_\_

[8G] What is faith without works? \_\_\_\_\_

[8H] Do the demons believe in God? \_\_\_\_\_

[8I] Whose faith was reckoned to him as righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_

[8J] In James 5:13-18 what is required for the prayer to restore someone who is sick? \_\_\_\_\_

[8K] How do we reconcile James 5:13-18 with the fact that we sometimes pray for sick people who die anyway? Is it our lack of faith or what is going on? Doesn't James 1:5-8 promise that if we do not doubt we can have whatever we pray for?

Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_

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----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 8 – Faithfulness (or Faith)**

[8A] According to Hebrews 11:1 what is faith?

"The assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." What does that mean?

[8B] According to Deuteronomy 32:4 is faithfulness an attribute of God? Yes

[8C] In Luke 16:10-13 what are we not able to do? Serve two masters Lk 16:13

[8D] What promise do we find in Revelation 2:10? "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

[8E] In James 1:2-3 what does faith produce? Endurance Jm 1:2

Read James 2:14-26 and answer the following questions:

[8F] Is faith without works useful? No Jm 2:14 Notice we are talking about usefulness, not salvation.

[8G] What is faith without works? Dead Jm 2:17 & Jm 2:26 It is metaphorical death, not spiritual death

[8H] Do the demons believe in God? Yes Jm 2:19 James is making a distinction between acknowledging His existence and trusting Him. We wouldn't trust someone just because they have a birth certificate, would we? But we would believe they existed.

[8I] Whose faith was reckoned to him as righteousness? Abraham Jm 2:23 And Abraham's faith was demonstrated by obeying God. How do you demonstrate your trust in God?

[8J] In James 5:13-18 what is required for the prayer to restore someone who is sick? Faith Jm 5:15

[8K] To understand James 5:13-18 you must look at the Old Testament passage James is talking about. In 1<sup>st</sup> Kings chapters 17 and 18 there is a drought that begins and ends with Elijah's prayer. The important thing to notice here is that Elijah is praying as God directs him to pray. If you pray for God's will, you will always get what you pray for. However, please don't be one of those people who think adding the phrase "God's will" to their prayer will magically make the requests of their prayer be given to them. It has to actually be something God told you to pray for or promised in His word. Similarly in James 1:5-8 the promise is that if we pray for wisdom without doubt we will receive it. It can't be just anything we want. It is not a lack of faith that keeps our prayers from being answered. It is a lack of faith that makes us disappointed when God's answer is "No," or "Not right now, My child."

The Greek word *pistis* here translated "faithfulness" by the New American Standard is most often translated "faith" which is the way the King James translated it here. Most modern versions render it "faithfulness" in Gal 5:22 and two or three other places, but then translate it just "faith" in over 200 other places in the New Testament. I was unable to discover the reasoning behind this choice. It may be because it is in a list of other things most of which are clearly behaviors, and faithfulness is faith shown in behavior. However, "peace" was not translated "peacefulness" and "joy" was not translated "rejoicing," so perhaps they had some other reason for translating it "faithfulness."

**For further thought:**

(8L) What can you add to this list of actions that show faith?

Obeying God's word even when you do not fully understand

Living in hope

Doing your best and trusting God for the results

Deciding not to doubt

Which of these do you do? What is your plan for showing faith in the future?

(8m) Read and discuss 1 Peter 1:3-9.

(8n) Read and discuss Romans 3:19 – Romans 4:25.

(8o) Read and discuss Hebrews 10:32 – Hebrews 12:3.

(8p) Read and discuss Galatians 3:1-29.

(8q) Use a concordance to look up the word "faith" and "faithfulness" and discuss some of the verses where it appears. I found over 375 of them, over 225 in the New Testament alone.

Lesson 9 – **Gentleness**- mildness, being careful with the feelings of others

Please read the following passages and answer the associated questions.

[9A] According to Psalm 18:35 is gentleness an attribute of God? \_\_\_\_\_

[9B] In Matthew 5:5 what will the gentle inherit? \_\_\_\_\_

[9C] In Matthew 11:29 who is gentle? \_\_\_\_\_

[9D] What is Jesus doing in Matthew 21:1-11? \_\_\_\_\_

[9E] How is Jesus described in Matthew 21:5? \_\_\_\_\_

[9F] In 1 Corinthians 4:21 what is the opposite of coming with the rod of discipline?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[9G] In 2 Corinthians 10:1 how does Paul describe Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

[9H] In Galatians 6:1 with what spirit are we to correct those caught in sin? \_\_\_\_\_

[9I] In Ephesians 4:1-2 who is asking them to walk with gentleness? \_\_\_\_\_

[9J] In 1 Thessalonians 2:7 what is gentle compared to? \_\_\_\_\_

[9K] In 1 Peter 3:3-5 what is imperishable? \_\_\_\_\_

[9L] Compare Proverbs 15:1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:25 and 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:15-16. What do they tell us about answering questions from those who hate Christianity?

Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_  
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As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem. -ISAIAH 66:13 NIV

----- ANSWERS -----

*Lesson 9 – Gentleness*

- [9A] According to Psalm 18:35 is gentleness an attribute of God? Yes  
[9B] In Matthew 5:5 what will the gentle inherit? The earth  
[9C] In Matthew 11:29 who is gentle? Jesus  
[9D] What is Jesus doing in Matthew 21:1-11? Entering Jerusalem on a donkey  
[9E] How is Jesus described in Matthew 21:5? As a gentle king  
[9F] In 1 Corinthians 4:21 what is the opposite of coming with the rod of discipline?  
Coming with love and a spirit of gentleness  
[9G] In 2 Corinthians 10:1 how does Paul describe Christ? Meek and gentle  
[9H] In Galatians 6:1 with what spirit are we to correct those caught in sin? Gentleness  
[9I] In Ephesians 4:1-2 who is asking them to walk with gentleness? Paul, the prisoner of the Lord  
[9J] In 1 Thessalonians 2:7 what is gentle compared to? A nursing mother caring for her children  
[9K] In 1 Peter 3:3-5 what is imperishable? A gentle and quiet spirit

[9L] We should be gentle with them. Their wrath is a symptom of their pain. We have the solution to their pain. We are like those people on the animal documentaries trying to rescue a tiger from the quicksand. We are trying to help them, but they don't know that. Our best chance of making them realize we want to help them is to be gentle.

**For further thought:**

- (9m) What can you add to this list of things that show gentleness?  
Not promoting yourself  
Not thinking more highly of yourself than others  
Not making sudden decisions unless you have to  
Being careful of the feelings of others  
Which of them describe you, and which of them are in your future plans?
- (9n) Is Jeremiah 11:19 talking about Jesus? How do you know?
- (9o) If we do what it says in Philippians 4:5 aren't we being boastful?
- (9p) In 1 Timothy 3:3 gentle is compared with what opposite? What does that mean?
- (9q) Does Titus 3:2 reveal anything about the nature of gentleness?
- (9r) Does James 3:17 reveal anything about the nature of gentleness?

*Lesson 10 – Self-Control* - moderation or self-restraint in action, speech, etc.; temperance

Please read the following passages and answer the associated questions.

[10A] In 1 Corinthians 9:25 it says that to be effective in any competition we must exercise some what?

[10B] In 2 Timothy 3:1-7 people with a long list of failings are listed, among which is being without self-control. How are we to react to such people? \_\_\_\_\_

[10C] In 2 Peter 1:5-11 there is a list of virtues, among them self-control? What is Peter saying we should do about these virtues? \_\_\_\_\_

[10D] In Acts 24:25 what do you suppose frightened Felix?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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**Fruit of the Spirit Course Conclusion**

[C1] For each fruit make a few notes about how you are doing with respect to that fruit.

(The chart on the bottom of page 5 might help you with this exercise.)

Love	
Joy	
Peace	
Patience	
Kindness	
Goodness	
Faithfulness	
Gentleness	
Self-control	

If you are in a group, you may want to discuss this, or you may want to make it a matter of prayer.

[C2] What do you most hope you will remember about this course?

[C3] If someone were to ask you what this course was about, how would you explain it?

[C4] Besides Galatians 5:22-23 is there another verse or passage you found during this study that you think would be good to commit to memory? Why?

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 10 – Self-Control

- [10A] In 1 Corinthians 9:25 it says that to be effective in any competition we must exercise some what? Self-control in all things
- [10B] In 2 Timothy 3:1-7 people with a long list of failings are listed, among which is being without self-control. How are we to react to such people? Avoid them 2 Tim 3:5
- [10C] In 2 Peter 1:5-11 there is a list of virtues, among them self-control? What is Peter saying we should do about these virtues? Be diligent to practice them 2 Pet 1:10

[10D] Felix was a man in authority in the Roman Empire. He did not need to concern himself with self-control very much. The idea that he might be accountable for his behavior to a higher authority who was interested in righteousness, instead of his boss, the Roman emperor, who was only concerned with expediency, would be very frightening. All who are in rebellion against God should be frightened. God is patient, but as it says in Genesis 6:3, "Then the LORD said, 'My Spirit shall not strive with man forever.' ..." The time will come when we will be judged. We should not mistake God's patience and mercy for a lack of resolve or limit to His holiness.

The Greek word translated "self-control" is *egkrateia* which literally means "in dominion" or "in control." So why not just translate it that way? Because in English it is a prepositional phrase, but in Greek it is noun. "The 'in control' is a virtue," makes no sense, so translators have to change it to make it make sense - "Being in control is a virtue," or "To be in control is a virtue," sort of work but they lose the idea that what you are in control of is yourself. "Self-control" (or "temperance" in the King James) capture the idea better in my opinion.

**For further thought:**

- (10e) What can you add to this list of practical examples of self-control?
- Be angry and yet do not sin
  - Eating without gluttony
  - Enjoying entertainment without impurity, uncleanness or lasciviousness
  - Enjoying parties without reveling
  - Using drugs and food to promote good health, not good feelings
- Which of them are you already being diligent practicing, and which are still in the future for you?
- (10f) In 1 Corinthians 7:1-9 is Paul acknowledging a limit to our self-control that is natural and acceptable? What does this passage mean?

