

Unpacking the Preach

Date Sunday 29th August 2021
Sermon Title Fruit of the Spirit: Patience, Kindness, Goodness
Bible Passage Galatians 5:16-26

Introduction

Take time to read the passage again and reflect on the below questions:

- Are there any new or different things that the scriptures have spoken to you about?

Recapping the preach

Nick spoke about God patiently standing with us in all the different seasons of our lives, and the magnitude of his love for us (Eph 3:17-18).

Nick also reminded us of the significance of the unity and togetherness of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit, and how we have to acknowledge all three, a Triune God. By neglecting one we get none. If God and Jesus are in glory (Christ seated at the right hand of the Father in glory upon his ascension) without the gift of the Holy Spirit, God cannot be present on earth – no Spirit no Jesus, No Jesus no God, No God no hope.

Jesus is the vine and we are the branches (John 15) and we must stay connected to bear fruit “Apart from him we can do nothing”. Do we check our source of life, our battery level or connection with God through Christ, as much as we check our mobile phones are plugged in and on charge, ready for use?.

Patience, Kindness and Goodness are social virtues more likely to be noticed than the others, so ask those close to you how you’ve been doing. Reflecting upon these social virtues in light of God’s patience, kindness and goodness towards us helps us to bear fruit in ALL circumstances.

• Questions for reflection

- Have you ever tried to picture what the process of Father, Son and Spirits communication may look and function like?

- If God and Jesus are one (I am in my Father and my Father is in me – John 14:11) then what is the significance of the gift of the Holy Spirit to believers on earth? Aren't Father and Son powerful enough to control everything from Heaven?
- Which of these three social virtues do you struggle with and excel in the most? Why do you think this is?
- Being slow to anger and patient with each other is a very well read theme throughout the Bible, what other passages and verses speak of this? Why do you think it is so important?
- What is the main emotion that hinders us from extending kindness to those who aren't nice to us? Is this something God allows to guide him?
- Surely God is glorified through all good works? Discuss...

• **Going Deeper**

- R.C. Sproul says the following "The gifts of the Spirit receive far more attention in our culture than the fruit of the Spirit. The fruits of the Spirit seem to be doomed to obscurity, hidden in the shadow of the more preferred gifts. Yet it is the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit that is the mark of our progress in sanctification. Of course, God is pleased when we dutifully exercise the gifts the Holy Spirit has bestowed upon us (1 Cor 12:7-11). But I think God is even more pleased when He sees His people manifest the fruit of the Spirit.
- Q: Why do you think R.C. Sproul would say this?

Response

- Regular fruit bearing check up's to confirm what our source of life is.
- Check our 'battery levels' regularly.
- Willingness to admit "Apart from me you can do nothing"

Prayer pointers

- The Lord would give you Spiritual sight to see clearly what kind of fruit you are bearing.
- A yearning to be filled with the Spirit as to walk in step with God.

- God to place the right people beside you to minister truth into your life.

Additional resources:

If you need some additional resources the below websites are useful:

- <https://www.gotquestions.org>
- <https://enduringword.com>
- <https://www.biblica.com>
- <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/>