

# Sermon Notes

## The New Life Part 13: Getting Your Heart Right

### August 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

- **The New Life**
- We are called out of the old and into the new, to be born again, to live new life in Christ.
- Last time: Spiritual Gifts – abilities and positions given by God. **1 Cor 12:4-11, Eph 4:11-16**
  - o Abilities and positions are highly valued by society.
  - o There is something that God values in us so much more than abilities and positions: the heart.
- **Today: The Fruit of the Spirit (Getting Your Heart Right)**
- Following Jesus is not about superficial outward things, but about the heart. **1 Samuel 16:6-7**
  - o People look at the outward appearance...and how much more in today's media culture!!
    - Don't let yourself get sucked into a superficial understanding of other people.
    - Instead, examine your attitudes, motivations, and emotions to align them with God.
- The state of the heart in the believer is often called "the fruit of the Spirit." **Galatians 5:22-26**
  - o Not "fruits of the Spirit are" but "fruit of the Spirit is." All believers are to have all of the fruit.
    - That's not my gift is fine. That's not my fruit is a rejection of a sacred thing.
- Which is more important: the fruit of the Spirit or high-level gifts of the Spirit?
  - o It's pretty clear in our society it's gifts, even sometimes in Christian culture.
  - o It's pretty clear in the Bible that it's fruit. **1 Cor 12:31 – 1 Cor 13:3**
    - Tongues, prophecy, knowledge, faith, giving, and sacrifice count for nothing without love.
      - Do you believe that? That if you don't love others you can only fail God?
      - Don't forget what the cross is all about. **John 3:16**
- When Spiritual gifts function without the fruit of the Spirit damage is done.
  - o False prophets, false teachers, etc. Probably goes without saying...but let's look at **Matt 7:21-23**.
    - V21: They are in the religious culture. Probably in prominent positions.
    - V22: They are moving in rather amazing spiritual gifts!
    - V23: However, they are bad people. What is the will of God? That you love people!!!!
  - o Trap: seeing the gifts so assuming God is with them. Not necessarily so. False and prophet.
- I hope I made my point about the value of the fruit of the Spirit.
- But, what if your heart isn't right? If **Galatians 5:19-21** describes you better than **Gal 5:22-23**?
  - o Don't pretend. You have to face this. There isn't a second option. But now what????
- You've got to battle this out yourself, but let me give you 3 things you can receive that may help.
- 1) Receive of the love of God. We love because He first loved us.
  - o "The Other Side of Church" and **Numbers 6:22-26**. Let His face shine upon you!!
  - o Problem: the love, power, majesty, goodness of God shows our unworthiness.
- 2) Receive of the righteousness of God. He redeems us and makes us right.
  - o Two parts of this highlighted in water baptism (44!): forgiveness/washing and new life!
  - o Not just forgiven and left, but lifted up as a citizen of Heaven, adopted into the family of God and a co-heir with Christ!!
- 3) Receive of the Spirit of God.
  - o We all need continual help. We need the guidance, wisdom, and the heart given by the Holy Spirit.
    - **1 Corinthians 12:12-13** we drink of the one Spirit. Receive of the Spirit of God.
- Imagine a world where every believer in Jesus is kind, gracious, forgiving, selfless, wise, patient, and full of all the fruit of the Spirit everywhere they go.
  - o Let's do our part to bring this into our circles.
  - o Jesus said **John 7:37-39**.
- Get personal prayer by emailing [prayer@goodhope.ag](mailto:prayer@goodhope.ag).