

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Whole Fruit

Galatians 5:22-23, The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith/fulness, gentleness, self-control.

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God; Father, Son & Holy Spirit, is never only part of Himself

- No matter how He is expressing Himself, He is always whole

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Last Sunday in Seattle

- An old friend; **One truth - One Source**

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Mark 12:29, Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: **The Lord our God, the Lord is one.**'"

- Everything **OF Him** is one/whole... never piecemeal.
- **"The fruit (not fruits) of the Spirit is" One**
- Each portion an essential, interdependent member of the whole

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John 10:30, "I and the Father are one."

- **Not in unity. One is Indivisible!**

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John 16:13-14, "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come... **He will take of what is Mine** and declare it to you."

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Galatians 5:22-23, The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith/fulness, gentleness, self-control.

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Romans 12:4-5, For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the

same function, **so we**, being many, **are one body in Christ**, and individually members of one another.

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I Corinthians 12:12, For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, **so also is Christ.**

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Colossians 2:9-10, For in Him dwells **all the fullness of the Godhead bodily**; and **you (together) are complete in Him**, who is the head of all principality and power.

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John 17:20-23, "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, **as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You**; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, **that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me**; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."

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I John 4:17, Love has been perfected **among us** in this: **that we may have boldness in the day of judgment**; because **as He is, so are we (together)** in this world.

- Love **ONLY** exists in relationship! It cannot exist in individual isolation!

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The fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith/fulness, gentleness, self-control.**

- **"as He is, so are we** in this world."

- **One** together in the Fruit of who He is

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What is the purpose of **the fruit He is in us?**

- To be living evidence of Himself through us
- To demonstrate **the one that He is** together

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Acts 1:8, "But you shall receive **power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**; and you shall be witnesses (a record of living evidence) to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

- From wherever you are, to as far as you can go

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So... The fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith/fulness, gentleness, **self-control**.

- The love of **who God is that is self-control**

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The American Bible Society recently released its 2025 State of the Bible research report, offering a statistical view of generational engagement in faith and the church. One third of respondents to a survey said they trust the Bible as completely accurate, while about one-fifth said they believe the Bible was written to control people.

- So, what does the Bible say about controlling people?

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John 5:19 & 6:38, Then Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **the Son can do nothing of Himself**, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."

"For I have come down from heaven, **not to do My own will**, but the will of Him who sent Me."

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John 20:21, Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**"

- (I John 4:17)

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What to do with self-control?

- **Surrender** yourself voluntarily to God, **Just like Jesus did**
- The one with the power to create & maintain the Universe!!
- Not like Adam & Eve

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We don't need to live too long before we realize that things we planned to exercise our control over did not go that way.

- And there was nothing we could do to make it otherwise.

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Every day we have the opportunity to be more like Christ, and less like who we are on our own.

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What do we really have control over?

- Whether and how we cultivate and display His fruit in our life
- love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith/fulness, gentleness, self-control.

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The only things we truly control are **our beliefs**, and **our response to those beliefs**.

- My old friend; One truth - One Source

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Only our belief justifies us in Christ

- Our response **demonstrates our beliefs** to be true

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Philippians 2:1-8 & 12-13

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James 2:14-26

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Self-control is the purse string of **the Spirit's fruit** that holds them all together **as ONE!**

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We use our God given autonomous self-control to **Submit ourselves** to the will of God

- Empowered by the Spirit to **live as one with Christ Jesus & The Father**

- *Making His fruit available to all we encounter*