

The Love Walk

## LESSON 8:

# LOVE IS SPIRITUAL FRUIT

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# Introduction

- ⦿ Last week we talked about loving God, loving self, and loving others
  - You cannot love yourself without loving God
  - You cannot love others without loving yourself
- ⦿ We will see through the teaching that love is spiritual fruit

# The Firstfruits of the Spirit

- ◎ Of the nine Fruit of the Spirit, the first is love
  - **Galatians 5:22-23**
    - <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, <sup>23</sup>Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
- ◎ Firstfruits are CONSECRATED!
- ◎ Love is Spiritual light
  - **Ephesians 5:8-9**
    - <sup>8</sup>For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: <sup>9</sup>(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

# All Fruit Begins With Seed

- ◎ Seed is a natural principle emanating from creation
  - **Genesis 1:11-12**
    - <sup>11</sup> And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. <sup>12</sup>And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.
- ◎ Seed relates to all living things – including man

# Man Continues With Seed

- ◎ Seed relates to all living things – including man
  - **Genesis 3:11-12**
    - <sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
- ◎ Man was created by the Word of God but multiplies by his seed.

# Reproducing After Your Own Kind

- ⦿ All living things are commanded to reproduce after their own kind
  - **Genesis 1:26-28**
    - <sup>26</sup> And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

# Reproducing After Your Own Kind 2

- ◎ NOTE, there is a DIFFERENCE between being fruitful and multiplying
  - Being fruitful means being productive
    - Fruit of the Spirit and your divine assignment
  - Multiplying means reproducing
  - One of society's problems is folks are multiplying without first being fruitful
    - The result is SEEDLESS FRUIT!

# Love is the Main Thing!

- ◎ Without love, all other gifts are useless!

- **1 Corinthians 13:1-3**

- <sup>1</sup> Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

# Love is Fruit – Word is Seed 1

## ◎ The Word of God is Seed!

### • **Luke 8:11**

- <sup>11</sup> Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

## ◎ The enemy is after the Seed

### • **Luke 8:12**

- <sup>12</sup> Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

## ◎ The enemy can't have the believer's soul, so he tries to take away the Word!

# Love is Fruit – Word is Seed 2

- ⦿ Good ground is a prepared heart

- **Luke 8:15**

- <sup>15</sup> But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. The enemy is after the Seed

- ⦿ Good ground is prepared by meditating on the Word of God

# Love is Fruit – Word is Seed 3

## ⦿ Effects of meditating on the Word 1

### • **Joshua 1:8**

- <sup>8</sup>This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

# Love is Fruit – Word is Seed 4

## ⦿ Effects of meditating on the Word 2

### • Psalm 1:2-3

- <sup>2</sup>But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. <sup>3</sup>And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

# We Are Called to Bear Fruit!

- ◎ This was Jesus' earnest expectation

- **John 15:4-5**

- <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

# Consequence of Fruitlessness

- ◎ This was Jesus' warning
  - **John 15:2-6**
    - <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.
    - <sup>6</sup> If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.
- ◎ If you're not in Him, you are cast into fire...
- ◎ But if you're in Him and being unproductive, you can be taken away!
  - Not harm (death, sickness), but removed from a position of influence
- ◎ God demands Fruitfulness!