

INFLUENCER.

Jesus' counter cultural guidebook

NO VITUPERATION - What It Is and What It Ain't

Let your light so shine...so they will praise your heavenly Father. Matt 5:16
When they VITUPERATED He **did not** VITUPERATE back. 1 Pet 2:23

LOVE: Cd = **ACCEPTING** or **TOLERATING** everyone and everything. "Don't judge."
Bd = **DOING** what is best for the other person even when it **HURTS** me. 1 Cor 13:4-7

Sometimes we might need to **RESTRICT** a **RELATIONSHIP** to protect others and show the seriousness of defiant sin. BUT we should not desire or enjoy it.
1 Cor 5, 2 Cor 2:5-8, Ps 51:10

JOY: Cd = Not **GRUMBLING** or **MINIMIZING** the seriousness of the problem.
Bd = **EXPRESSING** delight in my RELATIONSHIP with **JESUS**. Luke 15:32, Phil 4:4

PEACE Cd = No **ARGUING**, avoiding heated **DISCUSSIONS**.
Bd = **EVERYONE COOPERATING** towards a common goal. 1 Cor 14:33, Rom 14:19

PATIENCE: Cd = **ALLOW** someone to **ABUSE** or take **ADVANTAGE** of me.
Bd = Withhold punishment to give opportunity for **REPENTANCE**.
1 Pet 3:20, 2 Pet 3:9

KINDNESS: Cd = Being **NICE**. Not hurting someone's **FEELINGS**.
Bd = Doing what is **HELPFUL** and **USEFUL** to meet a **REAL** need. Titus 3:4-5

GOODNESS: Cd = Doing what **I** think is right.
Bd = Acting in accordance with **GOD'S** nature. Doing what **GOD** says is **GOOD**.
Luke 18:18

FAITHFULNESS: Cd = **HOPING** things will work out for the **BEST**. "You gotta have faith!"
Bd = Belief that is **DEMONSTRATED** in **ACTION**. James 2:14-17

GENTLENESS: Cd = Allowing or accepting **ABUSE**. Not taking a **FIRM** or **DEFIANT** position. "**WUSSNESS**."
Bd = **CONTROLLED** strength. The **PROPER** amount of force needed for each situation. 2 Tim 2:25, 1 Cor 4:21

SELF-CONTROL: Cd = Not **EATING** or **DRINKING** too much. Physical **DISCIPLINE**.
Bd = **INNER** strength. **MASTERY** of my **FEELINGS**, wants, and **DESIRES**.
Col 1:11, Eph 3:16

Auburn Grace Community Church – July 25th, 2021

19Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: 20For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. 21Wherefore lay apart all *filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness*, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. 22But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

26If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridlgeth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. 27Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. James 1:19-27

8Finally, all of you, be like-minded and sympathetic, love as brothers, be tenderhearted and humble. 9Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. 10For,

"Whoever would love life
and see good days
must keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from deceitful speech.

11He must turn from evil and do good;
he must seek peace and pursue it.

12For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and His ears are inclined to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against
those who do evil."a

13Who can harm you if you are zealous for what is good? 14But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be shaken."b 15But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord.c Always be prepared to give a defense to everyone who asks you the reason for the hope that is in you. But respond with gentleness and respect, 16keeping a clear conscience, so that those who slander you may be put to shame by your good behavior in Christ. 17For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 1 Peter 3:8-16

Life Group Discussion Questions – July 25, 2021

Matthew 5:16 *“Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”*

DISCOVER (read Galatians 5:22-23)

1. If you could change one personality trait in yourself, what would you change?
2. Try to remember which spiritual fruit stuck-out to you the first time you read this passage. Has that changed today? Which fruit do you think others will say is evident in you? Which one would you say is the least evident? (see Matthew 7:15-20)
3. How has observing the Fruit of the Spirit in others shown you more about God? What does this fruit indicate about being in relationship with God? If God has given all believers this fruit, is it possible to show evidence of one fruit but absence of another?

EXPLORE

1. Why do you think that Paul lists love as the first of the Fruit of the Spirit? (see 1 Corinthians 13:4-7)
2. For each fruit, describe how the world would describe that attribute, then review the biblical definitions from Pastor Greg's sermon. Try to identify the point where each trait has been twisted from the biblical meaning.
3. What is significant about Paul referring to the Fruit of the Spirit in the singular sense rather than in the plural? (v. 22)
4. Why does Paul say, “against such things there is no law”? (v. 23)

EXPERIENCE

1. Are there any fruit you chronically lack? If a fellow believer came to you and said they did not see much Fruit of the Spirit in their lives, what counsel would you give them (especially knowing you are lacking in an area or two)?
2. What is our part in producing Godly qualities in us? What is the Spirit's? If we play a role in our spiritual development, how much should we rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance?
3. Do you have any natural inclinations that could be confused with Fruit of the Spirit? How can you tell the difference?

PRAY/ACTION

Pray... Our Gracious God and Father, You have taught us that without love, we are just making senseless noise with our words and actions. Pour into us a fresh measure of Your love so that all the Fruit of Your Spirit would manifest mightily in our lives; that we would be known by the fruit we bear as disciples of Your precious Son, Jesus. We pray in His name. Amen.

Action... How can you this week be more open to sharing the Fruit of the Spirit in the context of your influence?



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Live a life of influence
by following the
example of Jesus.



DEEP

Discover. WHAT WAS SAID? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Explore. HOW DO THE PRINCIPLES TAUGHT RELATE TO MY LIFE?

Experience. WHEN HAVE I EXPERIENCED THIS? OR HOW CAN I?

Pray. WHAT ARE YOU GRATEFUL FOR FROM THIS TEACHING?

1. **DISCOVER.** CONTEXT

Review the main points from the message. Who were the people involved? What was the setting or situation?

2. **DISCOVER.** WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT JESUS?

What characteristic about Jesus stood out to you?

What passages or points from the message support your statement?

What was Jesus doing? or what has He done? What passages or points from the message support your statement?

What is important to Jesus? What does He value?
What passages or points from the message support
your statement?

3. **DISCOVER.** HOW SHOULD YOU LIVE BASED ON WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED?

Was there anything in the message that caused you to be
concerned? What do you need to know or be aware of?

Were there any instructions in the message? Is there anything
you need to do?

Were any promises spoken about that you can count on?
What were they?

4. **EXPLORE.** How does this message relate to you personally?
Why do you think it's important?

EXPERIENCE. How have you experienced what was taught?
If you don't have an experience that relates, what can you
do to gain experience?

5. **PRAY.** What are you grateful for from this teaching?



INFLUENCER.

Priorities

Allegiance

Perspective

Attitude

Strength

Fuel