



The Disciple of Christ: Growing & Fruitful 2 Peter 1:3-8 Part 3

- God has given us everything we need to have a spiritual life of **power**, godliness, and fruitfulness. vs. 3
 - “*And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.*” **Colossians 2:10**
 - As we learn to grow and walk in total faith in Jesus Christ, spiritual fruit is the natural outgrowth. Let’s examine the fruit of a growing disciple of Jesus Christ.
1. **First fruit: *virtue*. vs. 5**
 2. **Second fruit: *knowledge*. vs. 5**
 3. **Third fruit: *temperance*. vs. 6**
 4. **Fourth fruit: *patience*. vs. 6**
 5. **Fifth fruit: *godliness*. vs. 6**
 - Godliness is a **love** and respect for the Lord that flows forth as a desire to live **holy** and serve Him.
 - When you’re in a love relationship with someone, you **want** to please them.
 - You can have a **form** of godliness and miss the very essence of godliness, which is a love and affection for God.
 - “*Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*” **2 Timothy 3:5**
 - True godliness comes from Christ **within**, not outward **rules**.

6. Sixth fruit: brotherly *kindness*. vs. 7

- God's plan is never for disciples to be an island to themselves. God created us in Christ to be in **fellowship** with other believers.
- *"Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now."* **Philippians 1:4-5**
- Disciples are in fellowship with other believers because they are **growing** in the fruit of brotherly kindness.
- *"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."* **Romans 12:10**
- *"But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another."* **1 Thessalonians 4:9**
- Brotherly kindness is a work of the Spirit.
- *"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently."* **1 Peter 1:22**

7. Seventh fruit: *charity*. vs. 7

- Charity is a love to the **whole** human race, even your enemies and persecutors.
- *"And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you."* **1 Thessalonians 3:12**
- *"And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness."* **Colossians 3:14**

These seven fruits begin from *within* (Christ in us) and abound outwardly. vs. 8