

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

2.26.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Blessing of Spiritual Fruit

## **Galatians 5: 18 – 26, 6: 1 – 10**

What is the duty of the Christian? Our duty lies within working for the Lord, and it is our moral obligation, or in other words, it is our responsibility to follow after the task that God has required for us to perform. We all have a Christian duty toward others, a duty to serve one another, a duty to encourage one another, a duty to help one another in times of burdens, and a duty to pray for one another. In order to perform our spiritual duties, we must take on the responsibility to stand firm in our faith, and give oneself completely to the Lord. We are given these warnings and instructions through the word of God, so that our eternal hope will not waiver. Wavering hope can cause us to abandon our spiritual values and turn to the standards of the world. For this reason, God will allow consequences for the things that we do in this life, if there were no consequences then our motivation for holy living would be gone, and we would abandon our eternal responsibilities.

**Ephesians 4: 13 – 15,....**till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God....that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine....but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things....

Our responsibility as believers is to work as a servant of God as the Lord has given unto us the ability, and as he leads us to do so. Every good work for the Lord has eternal benefit, and when done in the will of God, it will not fail to accomplish what he wants to accomplish.

**James 1: 17,....**every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning....

Our motivation is that we have a promise from God that our work will not be in vain, and we shall receive the inheritance of eternal life with him.

**Colossians 3: 23 – 24,....**whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men....knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of inheritance, for ye serve the Lord Christ....

As believers, we understand that we have a loving, merciful, gracious God, so therefore, it should be a blessing for us to do everything in our lives possible, through obedience to Gods word, to please him. So, that whatsoever we do, whether in word or in deed, we must do it with a pure heart, giving thanks to God, through his Son Christ Jesus.

**Galatians 5: 18 – 26,....**if ye be led of the spirit, ye are not under the law....the works of the flesh are manifest....adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envying's, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like....they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God....but the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance....they that are Christs have crucified the flesh....if we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit....let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another....

Our Christian character is this, that Christ has freed us from the bondage of sin, and has given unto us the indwelling Holy Spirit to lead and to guide us in glorifying God.

Humanity is born into a sin nature which comes through the fallen state of man. For this reason, mankind's tendency is to please themselves anyway that they can. These works of the flesh are the things that humanity tends to lean toward, things that are contrary to God's purpose and plan for humanity. Through salvation, the indwelling Holy Spirit now makes it possible for us to make choices in our life, choices that are of the spirit of God, and not of the flesh. Let us remember, that the flesh does not die easily and although we want to do that which is good, and right in the sight of God, there is a struggle that is going on within our mind, a struggle that will often time cause sin to work within me. That which is pleasing unto the Lord can only come from that which the spirit alone can produce, therefore, we must stay continually submitted to the Holy Spirit, allowing him to direct every aspect of our lives.

**Galatians 5: 25,....**if we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit....

Salvation means freedom in Christ, but freedom in Christ does not mean that just because we are saved and can ask forgiveness for our sinful desires that we are free to continue to satisfy our sinful desires. This is the work that the Holy Spirit provides, it provides us with the help to overcome our sinful desires and lead us into the pathway of God's righteousness. This will not happen automatically, it is something that we must choose daily, and that is to give the Holy Spirit leadership in our lives, so that we might follow after Christ Jesus.

These struggles come about in our life because we are all born into this world physically alive, but spiritually dead. This means that we were motivated by worldly lusts and our fleshly desires empowered us. But the moment that we were born again we became spiritually alive, made alive by the spirit of God. With this new life in Christ, we have the ability to live our lives by the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**Galatians 6:1 – 10,....**brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit....considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted....if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself....let everyman prove his own work....for everyman shall bear his own burden....let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things....be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap....he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting....let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not....as we have....opportunity, let us do good unto all men....

As Christians, we are to serve God, and we are to serve others, and we are to do it willingly without pridefulness, and without selfishness. This means that we must quit focusing on ourselves, and we must focus, not on others, but on the spiritual needs of others, because the spiritual well being of others should come before our own material wealth. Sadly, we are taught that material wealth should come before all else, because this will bring happiness and joy, but rest assured it will only be worldly. In order to overcome this, those who are mature in the faith are to look out for those who may seem to be struggling with their sinful desires, but let us make sure that we do so with a godly spirit of humiliation, for without it there is the potential that we ourselves may fall prey to the same sinful desires. Now, yes there is a reward of godly living, but let us remember that these are rewards that have eternal value, so even though we may see some evidence of these rewards as we live here upon this earth, the fullness, and completeness of such rewards will come eternally in heaven with God.

**1 Peter 4: 10**,....as every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God....

As Christians, we are to have godly love, not only for one another, but for all mankind. For it is Gods love that covers a multitude of sin.

**1 Peter 4: 8**,....above all things have fervent charity among yourselves, for charity shall cover the multitude of sins....

In order to do so, one thing that we must do is to be diligent in our gifts of spiritual fruit, and we are called to faithfully administer these gifts of the spirit for the salvation of all humanity, for the building up of the saints, and for the glory of God. Our blessing of spiritual fruit is not for our own self-gratification, but it is for the edification of the body of Christ.

Let us Pray.

*Tim Hughes*

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>



