

Walking in the Spirit
Ephesians 5:9-21

I. Producing Godly Fruit – 5:9-10

1. Imitating God requires His Spirit – 9
Godly character cannot be produced by sinful humans
God has given us His Spirit to reproduce His likeness
His likeness is seen in goodness, righteousness and truth
This is a brief summary of fruit listed in Galatians 5:22-23
2. God is pleased as His children follow Him – 10
Jesus lived as a man pleasing to God – John 8:29
“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased”
God has given us His Spirit so we might please Him
This is the aim of every true child of God
To please our Father in conformity to His will

II. Practicing Godly Living – 5:11-14

1. Separate from the world of darkness – 11-13
World of darkness cannot produce good fruit - 11
God has delivered us out of darkness
The function of light is to expose darkness
Darkness only produces what is shameful – 12
How can God’s children participate in these things?
Light exposes darkness – 13
God has called us to shine as light in a dark world
2. Wake up and live as light for Christ – 14
We are alive from the dead & illuminated by Christ
God calls us to be alert and live godly lives

III. Prioritize God’s Will – 5:15-17

1. Be careful about acting foolishly – 15
Wisdom is seen in avoiding bad decisions
The fool focuses on self & gratification of his desires
2. Don’t miss God given opportunities – 16
Life is short and we need to take advantage of time
Poor decisions can side track us from God’s will
3. Wisdom is found in doing God’s will – 17
God is all-wise and knows the end from the beginning
Seeking and following God’s will is the way of wisdom
God’s Spirit, who lives in us, knows God’s will

IV. Provision of God’s Spirit – 5:18-21

1. Not wise to be controlled by our desires – 18
They can be overpowering & produce foolishness
2. Wisdom is submitting to the Spirit’s control - 18
He will produce what is pleasing to God

3. Note how the Spirit will impact our lives– 19-21
A joyful spirit within our hearts – 19
“Singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”
A thankful spirit in praise to God – 20
“Giving thanks always for all things unto God”
A submissive spirit in relationships with others – 21
“Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God”