



Introduction

We're in a five-week series titled *Fresh Fruit*, and contemplating the "fruits of the Spirit" mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23. Our big takeaway in this series is about how we can bring incredible things into the world in 2021 when we're in connection with God.

So that we can tackle all of the "fruits" listed in this passage, the preaching team will go over love, joy, kindness, patience, and then self-control. To compliment those messages, we'll discuss here love, peace, goodness, faithfulness, then gentleness.

To watch this week's sermon before your group discussion, go to www.journeyoffaith.com/messages

Share Your Story

1. Who's someone in your life that models (or modeled) a peaceful spirit, and how does that example impact you today when you look back on that example?

Hear God's Story

1. According to Galatians 5:22, one of the "fruits of the Spirit" (i.e. how we know if we're in-step with God) is growing in a spirit of peace. But what actually is that? Read the following verses then answer the question: What is peace according to God, and how does it differ from how I'm inclined to define it for myself?
Matthew 5:9; John 14:27, 16:33; Romans 8:6; Philippians 4:6-7
2. What's the biggest inward hurdle that you find you need to overcome when trying to model God's peace in your life in the context of community?
3. Way back in the day, the prophet Isaiah wrote to people everywhere what God told him to preach. Pause, and read some of that in Isaiah 52:7. In the ancient world, news was brought to people through a "herald." In this context, we're encouraged to be heralds of God's peace. Imagine now if you hypothetically overcame the hurdles we explored in #2. What would things in your life like your character, triggers, emotions, outlook, or how you engage with others look if you embraced being a "herald" of God's peace?
4. What does all of this tell you about the heart of God, and how does it help draw you closer to Him?

Create a New Story

1. What's one practical action step you're going to take this week to live out this lesson?