

## Small Group Questions

February 16, 2020

Series: Grow

Message: "In Peace"

This series will unpack the "fruit of the Spirit" listed in Galatians 5:22-23. Each week, one of the characteristics will be explained and applied to our lives from one primary passage. The "fruit of the Spirit" is all about the defining "look" of followers of Jesus and what followers of Jesus can become through the transforming power. Information is a good thing. If, however, information becomes the 'end game' for spiritual growth, it will not be result. Instead, information helps transformation when it assists a believer to become more like Jesus, which is what the list of characteristics describes. What are we becoming? This series gives us a bullseye but it is certainly not a one-time event or a short-term effort. Pursuit of the "fruit of the Spirit" endures and leads us closer to the One who gave Himself for us so that we could experience a whole new kind of life together with Him. We cannot achieve the "fruit of the Spirit" in our own power. We need God's help.

The main goal of this series is for people to experience personal transformation and to aim for the kind of life to which God call them, namely, a life defined by the "fruit of the Spirit."

Thank you once again for you service to God by loving the people in your group!

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. When most people say they want "peace in their life," what do they mean?
2. Who was the "peacemaker" in your house growing up? Explain.

(Questions based on the primary texts)

Read Galatians 5:22-23 and James 3:13-18.

3. When you hear the word "peacemaker," what images come to mind (positive/negative, strong/weak, etc.)?
4. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matt. 5:9) What do you think is the connection between being a peacemaker and being called a child of God?
5. Based on the James passage, what do you make of James' connection between wisdom and peace?
6. In James' list of qualities in 3:17-18, which trait is the easiest for you? Why? Which is the hardest? Why?
7. What is one specific way you can be a peacemaker in the next week?
8. This week, we are praying a prayer: "Holy Spirit, produce peace in me and through me." Which do you need more of – peace in you or peace produced through you?