

April 23/24, 2022

The Good and Beautiful Life “Love”

The Scripture: Galatians 5:22-23, John 13:34-35, Ephesians 3:14-19, Matthew 10:39

Big Idea: Through Jesus, we can live a good and beautiful life.

The Challenge:

We all want it, but how do we get it? A life of meaning, purpose, depth, and peace. Jesus offers us this life through life in the Spirit. The fruit (or outcome) of the Spirit is the good and beautiful life.

Pastor Chris' Prayer for this Message:

We would grasp again all that Jesus has done for us: purchasing our salvation and empowering us to live a fruit, good, and beautiful life.

Questions for Discussion:

1. **Set up**

- Are there ways that we live a “Jesus +” gospel? (Where we think we must add to what Jesus has done for us?)
- When you read the list of the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5, what story, teaching, or moment in Jesus' life comes to mind? The fruit of the Spirit perfectly describes Jesus!
- As you read the fruit of the Spirit, which one are you praying manifests itself in your life?

2. **Love of others – John 13:34-35**

- What makes the command that Jesus instructs, “new”? How does this differentiate Christianity from other religions and worldviews?
- Love for others is evidence of someone who has met Jesus Christ. How has this self-sacrificing love been expressed in your life this week?
- What is at stake if we don't love others? What sad stories can you recall of Christians not loving each other well? What positive stories can you recall of Christians loving each other and our world well?

3. **Love of God – Ephesians 3:14-19**

- How does the width, length, height, and depth of God's love reframe your deepest fear or insecurity?
- What role does community play in “grasping together” the love of Jesus? How can you help each other know and experience this love?

Application:

- After reading Matthew 10:39, if we want the Good and Beautiful Life, Jesus instructs us that we must lose ours. What does this idea of surrender look like for you this week?