

# Melbourne Church of Christ

*"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."*

## The Fruit of the Spirit

by Joel Shelton

**Galatians 5: 22-23 says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." This well-known passage commonly inspires us to set a goal of pursuing these individual qualities, and these are wonderful goals to have.**

However, what many fail to realize is that these various qualities are not meant to be pursued individually. Instead, we should understand them as a whole. In the same way that fig tree produces figs rather than olives and a grapevine produces grapes rather than figs (James 3:1-12) the Spirit produces just one kind of fruit. The Spirit of God produces a godly spirit.

These qualities then are descriptors of that fruit. You might describe an apple as red, crisp, and sweet. Here, Paul describes the fruit of the Spirit as something that is beautiful, wonderful and desirable. These qualities, and others like them (against such things there is no law) are part of the Christian life. They describe the qualities of a life that has been transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A few verses earlier, Paul also describes "the works of the flesh" and says they too are self-evident "sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies." And like the fruit of the Spirit, this by no means is a complete list of descriptors of the works of the flesh for Paul says "and things like these." These qualities of the flesh describe a life that is corrupt with the spirit of the world.

Continued on next page...

**The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!**

**Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.  
Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.**

**Visitors, please take a card from the back of the pew, fill it out, and put it in the offering tray. We are glad you're here and want you to know that you're welcome in the family of Christ that meets here!**

### Elders

Danny Brightwell Alan Love  
291-3439 243-4608

Shelby Qualls David Brightwell  
291-7424 307-5714

### Deacons

Joe Cooper 291-4653

Dalton Grigg 421-6240

Rusty Treat 373-1884

### Minister

Ryan Lloyd  
217-1109  
Melbourne CoC  
Box 267  
Melbourne, AR

## Family News

- If you have questions about online giving, please see David Brightwell.
- School supplies needed: Hand Sanitizer, Antibacterial Wipes & Kleenex. Deadline for supplies is Sunday, August 11.
- Charlotte Fowler is not doing well.
- Lindle Blevins is being treated for brain cancer.
- Kerri Brightwell had triple bypass surgery and is recovering well.
- Brad Teague is wearing a heart monitor for the next 30 days.
- Troy Gaston is on Hospice.
- Gage Barns is doing much better and does not need surgery at this time.
- Doyle's sister, Helen, broke her back in two places and her husband Ernie is not doing well. Diane's step mom, Mary, fell and is recovering from injuries.
- Kelly Powell's father, Don Powell, passed away.
- Sermons and bulletins available at [Melbournechurchofchrist.com](http://Melbournechurchofchrist.com)

**Opening Prayer**.....Danny Runion  
**Communion Reading**.....Shelby Qualls  
**Closing Prayer**.....Kelly Don Webb



**AUGUST**

**ANTHONY WESTON**  
**BRENT QUALLS**

**DALTON GRIGG**  
**CHIPPER LAMB**

**SEPTEMBER**

**DAVID BRIGHTWELL**  
**DANNY RUNION**

**DAYLEE BRIGHTWELL**  
**DANNY BRIGHTWELL**

**Continued...**

**In verse 17, Paul reminds us that these two very different types of fruit should not be growing in the same orchard. He says, "For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other" (see James 3 again).**

**This is the very struggle that the Apostle Paul himself was dealing with in Romans chapter 7. In verses 21-24 he says, "So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?"**

**Thankfully, his answer is our answer: "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" As Paul said in Galatians 5:16, "walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."**

**Prayer List**

**Military:** Derek & Allison Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

**Nursing Home:** Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman, Shirley Hill

Boyde Martin	Wilma Cooper	Peggy Hall	Dorothy Teague
Bill Roland	Joe Guiltner	Debbie Crow	Cornelia Summers
Christie Haney	Joanna Smith	Wayne Crosby	Brooke Partin
Toby Weatherford	Sanyia Austin	Charlotte Cooper	John Young
Regenia Gillihan	Regina Master	Shawna Teegarden	John Ward
Joe Anne Hendrix	Gage Barns	Ruby Patillo	Vance & Kaicey Little

**August Birthdays**

Ashlyn Beebe 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Melba Gillihan 4 <sup>th</sup>	Geryl Taylor 5 <sup>th</sup>
John Smith 8 <sup>th</sup>	Tiffany Webb 10 <sup>th</sup>	Holly Cooper 12 <sup>th</sup>
Billy Beebe 13 <sup>th</sup>	Brent Qualls 15 <sup>th</sup>	Abe Cooper 15 <sup>th</sup>
Anita Love 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Vest 20 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Zook 20 <sup>th</sup>
Jimmie Young 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Dottie McWherter 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jordan Kimble 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Ramona Qualls 26 <sup>th</sup>	Roby Cooper 26 <sup>th</sup>	Laine Wagoner 27 <sup>th</sup>
Sarena Young 28 <sup>th</sup>	Shawna Teegarden 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sanders Lee Wyatt 31 <sup>st</sup>

**August Anniversaries**

Tommy & Sandra Taylor 10 <sup>th</sup>	Danny & Betty Brightwell 12 <sup>th</sup>
Kelly & Tiffany Webb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Cleve & Darla Weaver 21 <sup>st</sup>
Joe & Shirley Guiltner 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Doyle & Diana Wyatt 29 <sup>th</sup>

**Dates to Remember**

Ladies Night Out 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.  
 Ladies Bible Study 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ 6 p.m.  
 Men meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.  
 \*Family game night will resume at a later time.  
 Potluck every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

**1 Corinthians 9:25-27, "Exercise self-control in all things. I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified."**