



rushed. To some, the Christian life may seem hard and joyless at first. As maturity develops, the love and joy God wants us to experience become apparent. We must not give up too soon. It is a mistake to expect "instant change" in our lives or others. It can happen, but seldom does. It is also a mistake to think God is finished with you after a certain time. Your life may still bear fruit.

### **2) Don't be frustrated .**

God can and will do a work in our lives if we allow it. Even now, He is changing us (II Corinthians 3:18). Changing someone into the image of Christ can't be hurried, especially considering the raw material some of have to offer Him. He can't be satisfied with less than perfection.

### **3) God is faithful .**

Don't get frustrated if your life doesn't seem to be changing fast enough. Everything happens in God's time (James 5:7, 8). God can grow a squash in a few weeks. Oak trees take hundreds of years. Time blends into eternity and the process of growth can be extended forever.

## **3) Fruit bearing requires cultivation .**

### **1) The requirement .**

The first requirement is an earnest desire to bear fruit for God. God plants His seed everywhere, but only some are receptive (Matthew 13:1ff). Seek to minimize resistance to truth, shallow relationships, and anxiety about the things of the world to provide an environment for growth and production. Fruit grows in the light, so we must live in the light (Ephesians 5:9)

### **2) The blend .**

II Peter 1:3-11 shows the blend of Divine and human effort required to bear fruit. He has given "everything we need for life and godliness," and "great and precious promises." He made us "partakers of the Divine nature." Yet, He expects us to "make every effort" to add Godly attributes to our character. We are promised we will never fail if we do these things. V. 10.

## **Conclusion**

The practical conclusion: How can we bear fruit in the Holy Spirit?

Make a conscious decision and active effort to live "in the Spirit" and not "after the flesh." At the same time, realize we can't succeed without God's help. Surrender life and will to Him. Bible study, prayer, self-examination are extremely important. Those who truly desire to be more like God will be helped to achieve that goal.

A certain farmer bragged about a stalk of corn he had preserved by storing it in his barn because it had 7 ears of corn on it. It had grown from one kernel and had produced thousands of kernels. Don't you wish you could bear fruit in your life as abundantly as that stalk of corn? I remember the days in Illinois when farmers thought 100 bushels to the acre was a good yield for corn. Now, 200 bushels is considered a poor crop in some places. Those farmers have proven the more work, study, and planning you put into farming, the more prosperous you will be.

The same is true in the spiritual realm. If we really want to bear fruit for the Lord, we will be enabled to do so through effort, study, prayer, etc.

## ***How Can We Bear Fruit?***

## ***Renewed in the Spirit***

One of golf's immortal moments came when a Scotsman demonstrated the new game to President Ulysses Grant. Carefully placing the ball on the tee, he took a mighty swing. The club hit the turf and scattered dirt all over the President's beard and surrounding vicinity, while

the ball placidly waited on the tee. Again the Scotsman swung, and again he missed. Our President waited patiently through six tries and then quietly stated, "There seems to be a fair amount of exercise in the game, but I fail to see the purpose of the ball."

That's the way it is in the church sometimes. It seems like we get so busy doing churchy things that we forget our dependence on the Holy Spirit. If we are to accomplish anything with any eternal significance, we must depend on Him.

Someone said, "If a man is filled with anger, then anger controls his life. If a man is filled with greed, then greed dominates his life. If a man is filled with lust, then lust governs his life. If a man is filled with love, then love influences all he does. And if a man is filled with the Holy Spirit, he is controlled by the Spirit - it is, if you will, 'control by consent.'"

Years ago on a variety show, one of the guests for the day was a body builder. As he entered the stage with his huge muscular body the crowd went crazy as the body builder began to flex his muscles and show his power. The first question asked of him was this: "What do you use all those muscles for?" Without answering, the body builder again stood up and began flexing his muscles while the crowd cheered wildly.

A second time, the question was asked, "What do you do with those muscles?" Again, the body builder flexed his muscles and the crowd became almost ecstatic.

After asking three times, "What do you do with all those muscles?" the body builder just sat in silence and had no answers. The man was all power but his power had no purpose other than to show off and bring attention to himself.

Evangelist D. L. Moody was once asked why he urged Christians to be filled constantly with the Holy Spirit. "Well," he said, "I need a continual infilling because I leak!" He pointed to a water tank that had sprung a leak. "I'm like that!" he said. It's a fact that living in this sinful world we do need to be replenished by the Spirit. Another evangelist was asked if he believed in the "second blessing." "Of course I do," he replied, "and in the 3rd, 4th, 5th blessing, and so on."

We are reminded in Scripture to allow the Holy Spirit to renew us daily. Because we leak. We need Him to fulfill our purpose.

God Bless You!  
Bro. Allan

## Opportunities For Service

### Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

#### **Sunday, October 25, 2015**

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School ..... 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Bill Schottel, Ken Kirkpatrick, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Ken Nice

Diversicare.....2:30 pm

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

#### **Wednesday, October 28**

No Youth Study .....

No Prayer/Bible Study.....

Adult Choir ..... 7:30 pm

#### **Sunday, November 1, 2015**

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School ..... 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Gary Yarbrough, Ken Nice, Fred Kerns, Don Sharp

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

**Monday, November 2**

Food Kitchen.....5:30 pm

**Wednesday, November 4**

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study .....6:30 pm

Adult Choir ..... 7:30 pm

**Thursday, November 5**

G Team.....6:30 pm

**Up-Coming Events.....**

**October 25 — Diversicare 2:30 pm**

**October 26-28 — Missouri Baptist Annual Meeting**

**Begins 5:00 PM, Monday Evening, 10/26**

**Watch online @ mobaptist.org**

**November 1 — Daylight Saving Time Ends**

**November 2 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm**

**November 11 — Veteran's Day**

**November 11 — Prayer Warriors 10 am**

**November 19 — Food Pantry Day**

**November 26 — Thanksgiving Day**

**November 29 — Diversicare 2:30 pm**

**GROW Team**

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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**Sunday Nights**

We will have Sunday Evening Service here tonight at 6:30. Hope to see you there. Bring a friend!

**Wednesday Night Prayer  
and Bible Study**

There will not be a meeting this Wednesday at 6:30 pm for Youth or Adults. See you next week. Prayer and Bible Study matter!

*In Sympathy*

We offer Christian Sympathy to the family of Brother Clyde Elder, our Director of Missions for the Saint Joseph Baptist Association, who passed away Thursday, October 15. He will be greatly missed by all.

**Missouri Missions Offering**

We emphasized Missouri Missions throughout the last few weeks. The goal for our church was \$1,500, and we collected \$1,504. Thank you for giving.

**Diversicare Nursing Home**

**Today, October 25, 2015**

**at 2:30 pm**

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

## **Food Kitchen**

*Please come serve with us at the Valley Food Kitchen. We will serve Monday, November 2, at 5:30 pm.*

**Daylight Saving Time Ends  
Sunday, November 1  
at 2 am**

Please remember to set your clocks back 1 hour Saturday night, October 31, 2015.

**THANK YOU**

To Brother Allan and  
Calvary Baptist Church,

Thank you all so much for helping host the Senior Adult Revival. You provided an excellent start for a great week. Your hospitality was a true blessing and I know the Lord will honor you for it.

Peace, Reverend Jason Moore,  
First Baptist Church , Saint Joseph

**Ladies Bible Study—**

**Beth Moore "Children of the Day"**

This Bible Study has been postponed until November. Watch for a new start date.

## ***For the Record-***

**Attendance:** October 18, 2015

Sunday School.....	31
Visitors.....	0
Total.....	31
Contacts Made.....	12
Morning Worship.....	48
Children's Worship .....	N/A
Sunday Night .....	N/A
Wednesday Night .....	13

**Financial Record:**

Weekly Budget.....	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received...	\$ 1,086.10
MMO Goal .....	\$ 1,500.00
Received .....	\$ 1,504.00

**Offering Received by Mail:**

**November Counting Team:**

John Lewis and Bill Schottel

**November Van Driver:**

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747

**before 8 am** if you need a ride.

### **November Birthdays:**

07...Alva Lou Schottel  
13...Shirley Wilson  
14...Sam Hoover  
22...Linda Dotson  
23...Floetta Conard  
25...Maxine Ferbert  
27...Linda Kerns

### **November Anniversaries**

Bill and Donna Dunn  
November 3, 1995  
Jack and Flo Conard  
November 4, 1956  
John and Dottie Wildberger  
November 23, 1962  
Jim and Brigida Winans  
November 28, 1975

### ***Prayer Requests ...***

Margaret Dotson—stomach cancer  
Maxine and George Ferbert—tests  
Bill Haskins—recovery  
Joyce Izer—knee  
Stacy Gray—cancer treatment  
Muriel Elder and Family  
Ann Riddle—health  
Linda Rails—Doris' Richardson's sister  
LoLeta's Family in Doug's death  
Allen Jennings—recovery  
Grant Schottel—advanced training  
Henrietta Caballero—Brigida's Sister  
Austin Chalfant—Abby's nephew  
Gary and Marilyn Singleton—health  
Bob Barquist—cancer  
Jozy Winans—rehabilitation  
Louanne Laurence—Joyce's Mother  
Lester Buck                   Kathryn Beavers  
Jim Winans                   Dorothy Post  
Nellie Reynolds               Leona Reynolds  
Kevin Duty                   Opal Roberts  
Madeline Swink               Bobby Griswold  
Lois Pace                   Susan Patten  
Debbie Sands               Sue Higgins  
Brenda Burgess               Judy Anderson  
Carolyn Houts               Roscoe Lane  
Keon McKahan  
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs  
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church  
David and Deborah Grace

Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People  
Our Nation and Leaders  
Our Military Service people  
**Today's Prayer Requests ...**

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**Our Nation and our Leaders ...**

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**Five More New Families...**

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