

**THE HOLY SPIRIT – 4**  
**MARCH 16, 2016**

**GAL. 5:16**

**INTRODUCTION:** Our worst enemy is not the devil, or world, but the flesh. Cain killed Abel, Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery. Moses hit the rock twice, Jonah fled Ninevah, and Samson, Solomon and David fell victim to lust. The prodigal and his brother both gave in to the flesh. Jesus said the flesh is weak, but, by walking in the Spirit we can overcome the works of the flesh. **1 COR. 14:1** – Reveals the pattern to follow if we want spiritual manifestations. The nine graces of the Spirit can be divided into three groups. The God-ward- love, joy and peace. The man-ward – longsuffering, gentleness and goodness. The us-ward – faithfulness, meekness and temperance.

1. Love. **ROM. 5:5**
  - A. This fruit gives us genuine love for God and man.
  - B. **EPH. 3:17-19** – This fruit fills us with God's fullness.
2. Joy is love's strength. **NEH. 8:10**
  - A. **JOHN 15:11** – This joy comes from our Lord.
  - B. **1 PET. 1:6-8** – This joy is inexpressible.
  - C. **JAMES 1:2** – This joy empowers us to overcome.
3. Peace is love's security. **JOHN 14:27**
  - A. Peace with God. **ROM. 5:1**
  - B. Through the power of the Spirit. **ROM. 15:13**
  - C. Being spiritually minded produces peace. **ROM. 8:5-6**
4. Longsuffering is love's endurance. **2 PET. 3:8-9**
  - A. **2 PET. 3:15** – The goal being salvation.
  - B. Longsuffering means being slow to avenge those who wrong us.
  - C. The flesh is quick to react to offense. **COL. 3:12-14**
5. Gentleness is love's conduct. **EPH. 4:31-32**
  - A. It means to show kindness. **TITUS 3:3-7** – It gave us Jesus.
  - B. It continues through the ages. **EPH. 2:7**
6. Goodness is love's character. **EPH. 5:8**
  - A. Goodness is a powerful force. **ROM. 2:4**
  - B. Goodness overcomes evil. **ROM. 12:19-21**
  - C. Barnabas was good, an encourager, generous, giving. Dorcas was full of good works and charitable deeds.
7. Faithfulness is love's loyalty. **PR. 20:6**
  - A. Essential to receiving the Crown Of Life. **REV. 2:10**
  - B. Those who are faithful are blessed. **PR. 28:20a**
  - C. Three areas of faithfulness. **LUKE 16:10-12**
8. Meekness is love's humility. **MT. 11:28-30**
  - A. Meekness is our thoughts and attitudes toward others.
  - B. **GAL. 6:1-3** – We're all vulnerable.
  - C. **1 PET. 3:1-4** – A meek and quiet spirit is precious to God.
9. Temperance is love's victory. **1 COR. 9:24-27**
  - A. Defined – One who masters his desires and passions.
  - B. A foundational building block. **2 PET. 1:5-9**
  - C. Necessary to overcome the works of the flesh. **GAL. 5:19-20**

**CONCLUSION:**

The Blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin. Through the Spirit we are empowered to crucify the flesh and live holy, godly, righteous lives. We must choose between sowing to the flesh or spirit. We will reap what we sow.