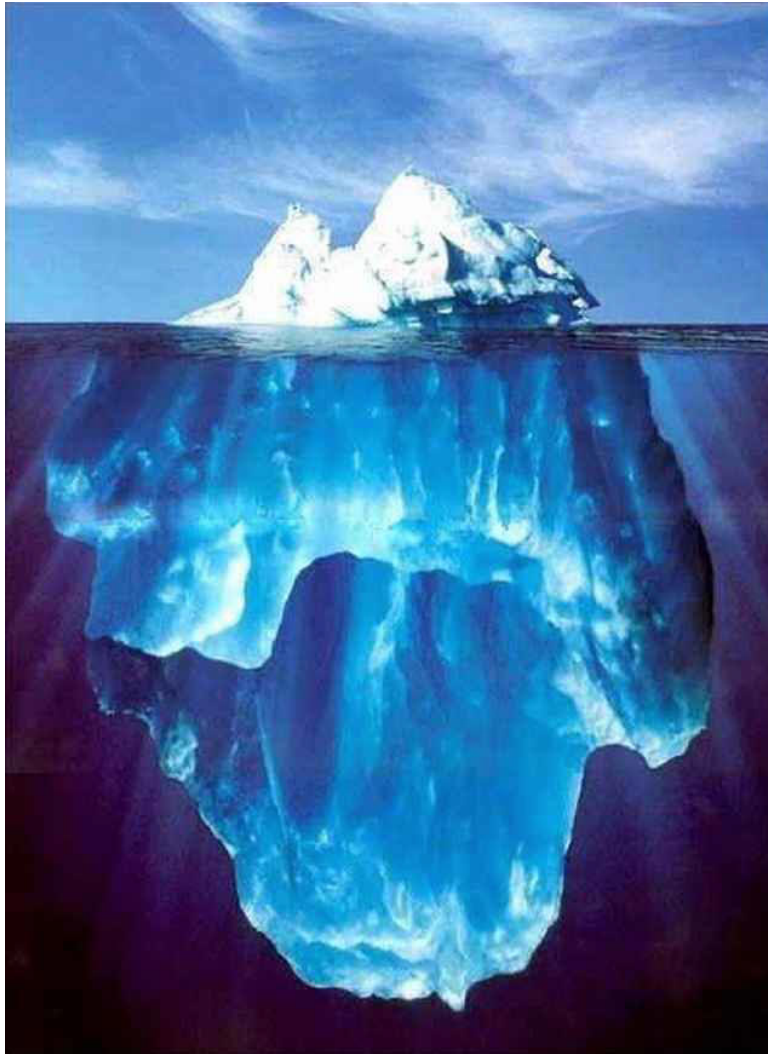


# SPIRITUAL FORMATION ©

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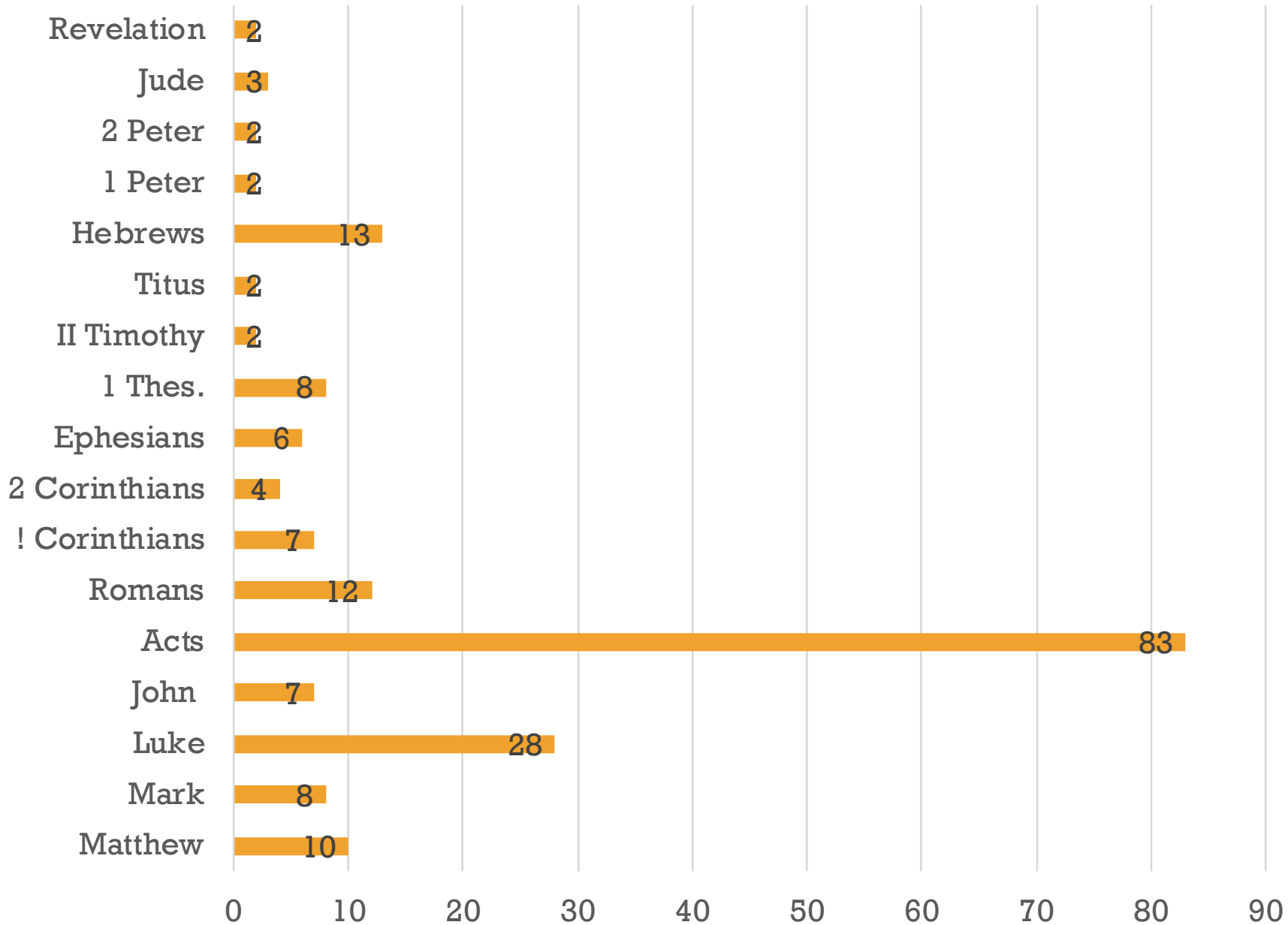


## APPEARANCES AND SPIRITUAL MATURITY

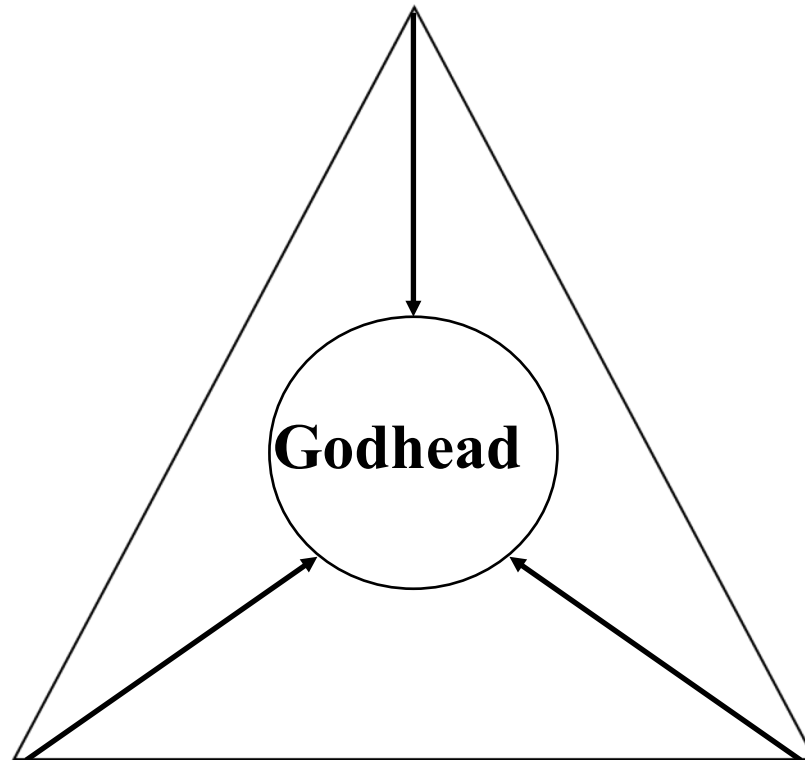
Can someone  
be spiritually  
mature and  
emotionally  
immature?

- Recently I was reading an article from Pew Research Center that described Christianity being one of the most abandoned religions in the world.
- The vast majority of adults leaving Christianity are not merely switching from one religion to another; rather, they are disaffiliating from religion altogether.
- In the United States, 19% of adults who were raised Christian now identify as atheist, agnostic, or nothing in particular.
- Studies like this and many others have served as warning signs for the church in recent decades. They have been indicators that God's people are not living into the fullness of life that he has designed for us.
- There is ignorance about the person and work of the Holy Spirit, a lack of conviction for the salvation of the lost, and a decrease in spiritual disciplines.

## The Holy Spirit in the NT



# THE TRINITY



- The Athanasian Creed:
- “We worship one God in the trinity, and the trinity in unity; we distinguish among the persons, but we do not divide the substance”
- Classic text:
- *Mat 3:16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.*
- *Mat 3:17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."*

## OFFICIAL DEFINITION

Developing a  
Trinitarian  
Ministry

- 2Co 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- 1Pe 1:2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.
  - The Greek root word “trias”, was popularized by Theophilus of Antioch (a.d. 181).
  - The word in Latin “trinitas” was popularized by Tertullian (220 A.D)

## TRINITARIAN FORMULATIONS

We can summarized the doctrine of the trinity as “one God in thre persons, one substance”

	<b>Father</b>	<b>Son</b>	<b>Holy Spirit</b>
Eternal	Psalm 90:2	Micah 5:2	Rom. 8:11
Omnipresent	1 Ki 8:27	Mat 28:20	Psa 139:7-10
Omniscient	I Jn 3:20	Jn 16:30; 21:17	1 Cor 2:10-11
Omnipotent	Gen 17:1	Matt 28:18	Luk 1:35
Immutable	James 1:17	Heb 1:13;13:8	Rev 19:10
Called God	Phil 1:2	Jn 1:1, 14; Col 2:9	Acts 5:3-4
Creator	Isa 64:8	Jn 1:3; Col 1:15-17	Job 33:4; 26:13
Resurrects	1 The 1:10	Jn 2:19; 10:17	Rom 8:11
Indwells	2 Cor 6:16	Col. 1:27	Jn 14:17
Sanctifies	1 The 5:23	Heb 2:11	1 Pe 1:2
Life giver	Gen 2:27	Jn 1:3; 5:21	2 Cor 3:6-8

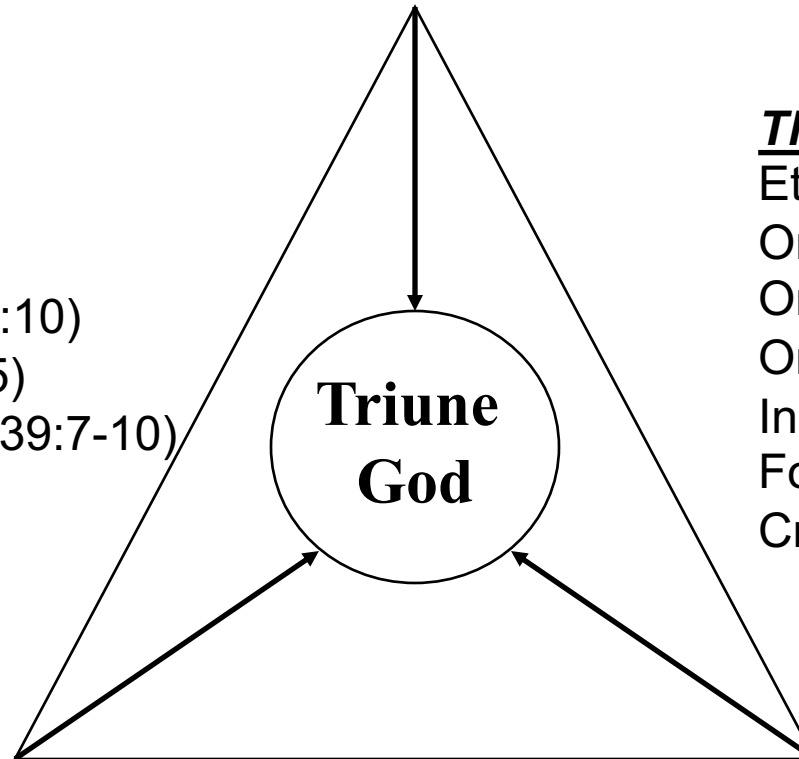
# Our Triune God

## **Holy Spirit**

Creator (Ge. 1:2)  
Eternal (He. 9:14)  
Omniscient (1 Cor. 2:10)  
Omnipotent (Lk. 1:35)  
Omnipresent (Psal.139:7-10)

## **The Son**

Eternal (Jn. 17:5,24)  
Omnipresent (Mt. 28:20)  
Omniscient (Jn. 16:30)  
Omnipotent (Jn. 5:19)  
Immutable (He. 1:12; 13:8)  
Forgive sins (Mt. 9:2,6)  
Creator (He. 1:10-12)



## **The Father**

Lord, Creator, Eternal, Omnipotent,  
Omniscient, Immutable

- Gives Orders/direction (Acts 1:2)
- Empowers to do missions (1:8)
  - Act 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the farthest parts of the earth.”
- Reveals Prophecy (1:16)
  - Act 1:16 “Brothers, the scripture had to be fulfilled that the **Holy Spirit foretold** through David concerning Judas – who became the guide for those who arrested Jesus –
- Fills the believers (2:4),
  - Act 2:4 All of them were **filled** with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them.

## THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Filling of the Holy Spirit is associated with Joy.

How does the spirit talk to the church?

Have you resisted the HS?

Have you felt the HS calling?

How dependent on the HS are we as a church?

- **Bold Witness (4:8, 31), healings , miracles**
  - Act 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, replied, “Rulers of the people and elders
  - Act 4:31 When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God courageously
- **Disciplines: Ananias & Saphira (5:1-11)**
- **The HS can be resisted (7:51)**
  - Act 7:51 “You stubborn people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are always resisting the Holy Spirit, like your ancestors did!
- **The Holy Spirit indwells (10:44)**
  - Act 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the message.

## THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Act 10:45 The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were greatly astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles,

- Sets apart for service (13:2,4)
  - Act 13:2 While they were serving the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”
- Prevented Paul from Preaching in Asia (16:6)
  - Act 16:6 They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been prevented by the Holy Spirit from speaking the message in the province of Asia.
- The HS warns (20:23)
  - Act 20:23 except that the Holy Spirit warns me in town after town that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me

## THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

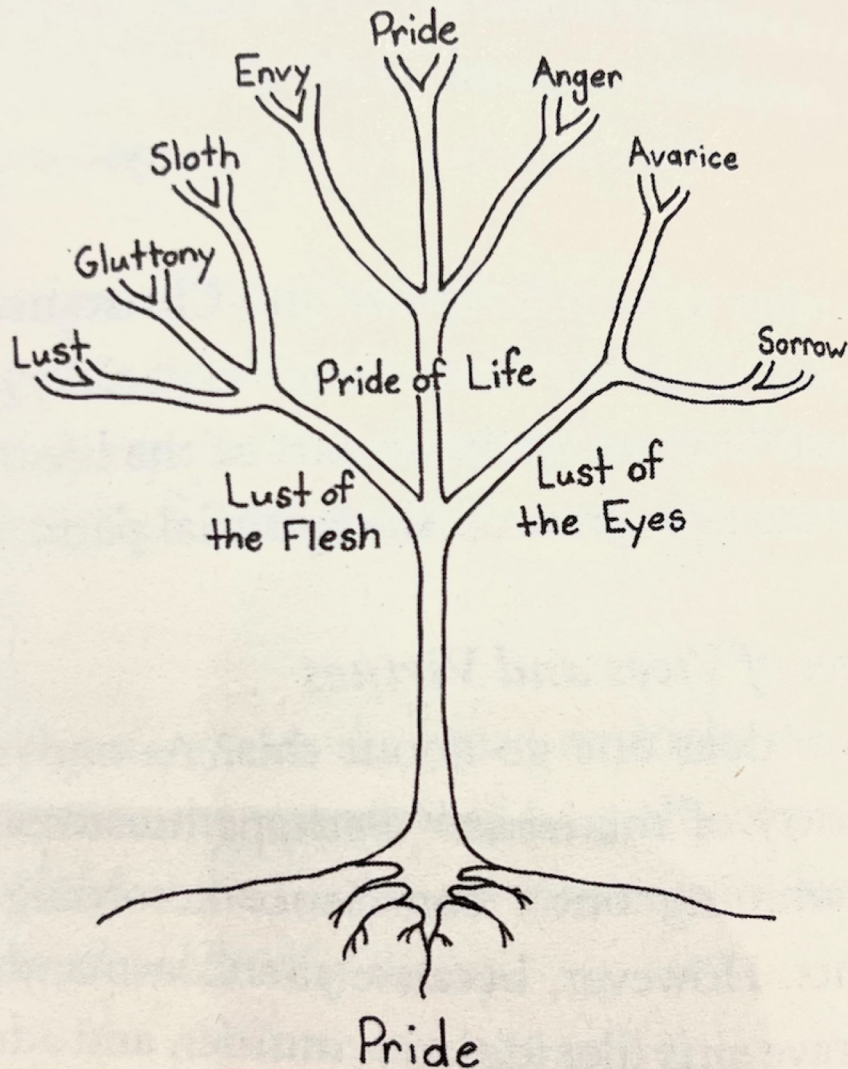
Act 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

- Gal 5:16 But I say, **live by the Spirit** and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh.
- Gal 5:17 For the flesh has desires that are opposed to the Spirit, and **the Spirit has desires** that are opposed to the flesh, for these are in opposition to each other, so that you cannot do what you want.
- Romans 8:12-14 (NET)
- 12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh
- 13 (for if you live according to the flesh, you will die), but **if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live.**
- 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God.

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Part of Spiritual Formation includes acknowledging the inner civil war within us.

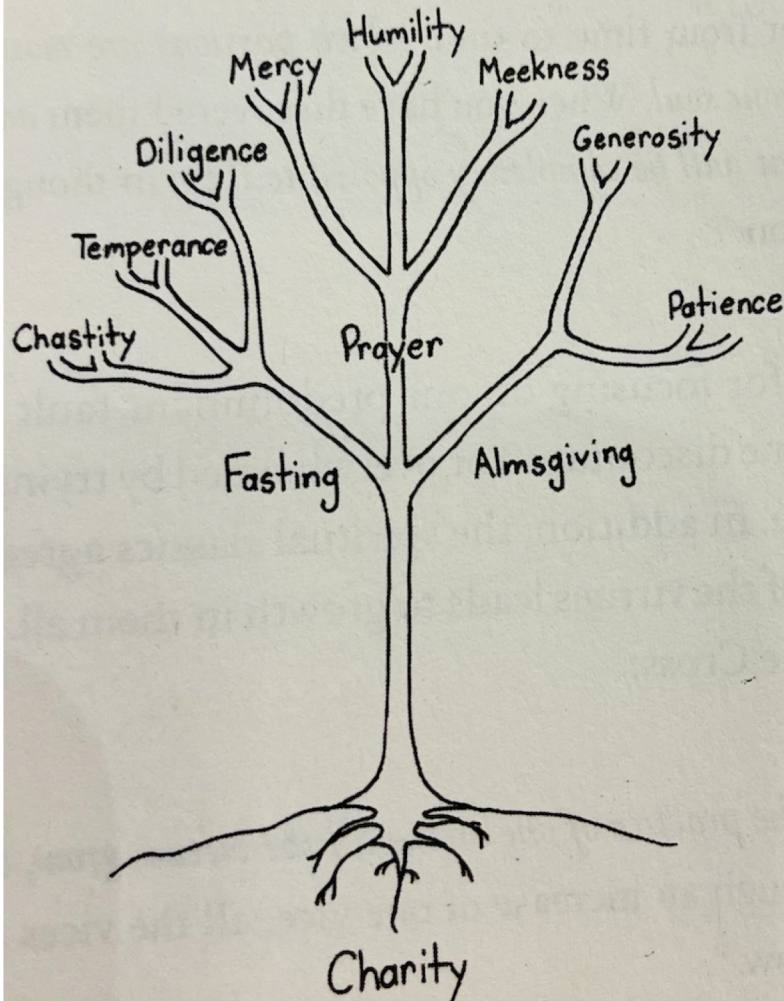
## The Evil Tree



# LIFE IN THE FLESH

- Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, depravity,
- Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions,
- Gal 5:21 envying, murder, drunkenness, carousing, and similar things. I am warning you, as I had warned you before: **Those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God!**

## The Good Tree



# ELEVATING THE CHARACTER OF THE DISCIPLE

- Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*
- Gal 5:23 *gentleness, and self-control.* Against such things there is no law.
- Gal 5:24 **Now those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.**
- Gal 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also behave in accordance with the Spirit.
- Eph 5:9 for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth –

- ἀγάπη agapē (Mounce)
  - 116x: love, generosity, kindly concern, devotedness; pl. love-feasts, Jud 1:12.
- Χαρά, chara (strong)
  - cheerfulness, that is, calm delight: - gladness, X greatly, (X be exceeding) joy (-ful, -fully, -fulness, -ous).
- Εἰρήνη, eirenē (Mounce)
  - 92x: peace, Luk 14:32; Act 12:20; tranquility, Luk 11:21; Jhn 16:33; 1Th 5:3; concord, unity, love of peace,
- Μακροθυμία, makrothumia (Mounce)
  - 14x: patience; patient enduring of evil, fortitude, Col 1:11; Col 3:12; 1Ti 1:16; 1Pe 3:20;
  - slowness of avenging injuries, long-suffering, forbearance, clemency, Rom 2:4; Rom 9:22; 2Co 6:6; Gal 5:22; Eph 4:2; 2Ti 4:2; Jas 5:10;
  - patient expectation, 2Ti 3:10; Heb 6:12; 2Pe 3:15.

## CULTIVATING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

- Χρηστότης, *chrestotēs* (Thayer)
  - moral goodness, integrity, benignity, kindness
- ἀγαθωσύνη, *agathōsyne* (Mounce)
  - 4x: goodness, virtue, beneficence, Rom 5:14; Eph 5:9; 2Th 1:11; generosity, Gal 5:22.
- Πίστις, *pistis*
  - persuasion, that is, credence; moral conviction
- Πραύτης, *prauteēs* (Mounce)
  - 11x: also spelled πραότης, ἡτος, ἡ, meekness, mildness, forbearance, 1Pe 3:15; gentleness, kindness, Jas 1:21; Jas 3:13; Gal 5:23.
- ἐγκράτεια, *enkrateia* (Mounce)
  - 4x: self-control, continence, temperance, Act 24:25; Gal 4:23; 2Pe 1:6.
  - It relates to curbing the fleshly impulses

## CULTIVATING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self Control



# UNDERSTANDING THE JOURNEY

The Six Phases of Discipleship

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Problems</b>	<b>Moving on..</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Phase: First Love</b>	Dedication, Peace, Love,	Emotionalism	Bible Reading, growing Faith
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Phase: Discipleship</b>	Belonging in Church, following leadership, information	Rules Oriented, Rigid Faith, legalism, ritualism	Grace, discerning calling
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Phase : Productive</b>	Ministerial development, developing church ownership	Self-centered faith, Exhaustion	Change is the only constant, a faith that endures crisis, rediscovery of the biblical Jesus

<b>Between Phases 3-4</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>How did we get here?</b>	<b>Solution</b>
<b>CRISIS:</b> Luke-warm	Confusion, doubt, resentment, distancing from fellowship	Ego, unmitigated guilt, disappointment with leadership and God	Inner Healing, Experiencing Grace, developing unique form of spirituality

- This is a universal experience
- Some are taught to ignore this phase
- Those who overcome this phase move on to a fruitful ministry.

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Caractheristics</b>	<b>Problems</b>	<b>Moving on</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Phase: Self- Examination	Integrity, focused on healing of relationships	Lak of forgiveness, pride, lack of trust, lack of confidence	Total surrender, Faith - Trust, accepting God's will
5 <sup>th</sup> Phase: Journey	Sense of calling & ministry, sense of purpose, consecration,	Incomprehension by family or others	Service
6 <sup>th</sup> Phase: Compassion	Obedience, serving others	Balancing life between family & ministry	<i>Disciple Maker</i>