



KEEP US IN STEP

²²But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

Galatians 5:22-25 (NLT)

**WALKING IN
BLESSING**

¹Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ²but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. ³That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.

Psalms 1:1-3 (NIV)

TREES ARE MADE FOR FRUIT



The diagram illustrates the life cycle of an apple tree in six stages, labeled 1 through 6. Stage 1 shows a single seed. Stage 2 shows a small seedling with two leaves and roots. Stage 3 shows a slightly larger seedling with more leaves and roots. Stage 4 shows a young tree with a more developed root system and several leaves. Stage 5 shows a tree in full bloom with many white flowers. Stage 6 shows a mature tree heavily laden with red apples. Above the stages, there are illustrations of two red apples, a cluster of white apple blossoms, and several brown apple seeds. Below the stages, a row of red apples is shown on the ground. The entire diagram is set against a light blue background with a green ground line.



**The Fruit of the Spirit Is
Internal: It Blesses You**

“The spirit of love originates in God’s eternal will, which only desires all goodness. He is the one eternal, immutable God, who does not change from eternity to eternity, who can desire neither more nor less nor anything else but all the goodness that is in Himself, and can come from Him....It is much more possible for the sun to give forth darkness than for God to do, or be, or give forth anything but blessing and goodness.”

William Law

**The Fruit of the Spirit Is
Relational: It Makes You a
Blessing**

The Fruit of the Spirit Gives Us the Will:

1. To be patient with people
2. To be kind to people
3. To strive for what's good and best for all people

“Patience is a sense of afflictions handled without complaining and of injuries accepted without revenge; long-suffering is patience extended until it finishes its work.”

Thomas Manton

**The Fruit of the Spirit Is
Directional: It Keeps You in
Blessing**

Matt Emmons

2004 Olympics

Emmons held a commanding first-place lead going into his final shot, needing only a mediocre score on his final shot to secure the gold medal.

He took his time, lining up his aim to the dead center of the target, and gently squeezed the trigger. The bullet pierced exactly where he was aiming, in the center of the bullseye.



But no update was made to his score on the digital scoreboard he looked at. Confused, Matt gestured to the officials. Was there a malfunction with the target? With the scoreboard? Not exactly. Matt Emmons had aimed precisely and hit the target one lane over. His score was zero.



Harvey Penick

*Famed Golf Instructor,
Called “The Aristotle of Golf”*

When my student Betsy Rawls was in a playoff for the U.S. Women’s Open championship, I sent her a one sentence telegram. It said: “Take dead aim!” Betsy won the playoff.

For golfers who might not understand Texas talk, let me put the advice in the telegram a different way: Once you address the golf ball, hitting it has got to be the most important thing in your life at that moment. Shut out all thoughts other than picking out a target and taking dead aim at it.

