

IV. EXTEND GRACE TO EVERYONE

¹⁰ *"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*

I John 4:10

God's righteous wrath against sin was satisfied by grace through the sacrificial offering of Jesus Christ.

¹³ *"bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."*

¹⁴ *But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection."*

Colossians 3:13-14

V. CHOOSE TO LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY IN EVERY SITUATION

¹¹ *"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."*

I John 4:11

⁴⁴ *"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,*

⁴⁶ *For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?"*

⁴⁷ *And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?"*

Matthew 5:44, 46-47

VI. MAKE THE INVISIBLE GOD VISIBLE

¹² *"No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us."*

I John 4:12

God reveals Himself through the love expressed by His children.

LOVE: BE THE HANDS & FEET OF JESUS

JUICY FRUIT

Transform Your Character

Love: Being The Hands & Feet Of Jesus

Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. When life squeezes you, what character spills out?

Character matters.

Your true character is revealed during adversity. Unfortunately, many times, what spills out is not positive.

It's time to transform your character and experience the "juicy life" found through the Fruit Of The Spirit.

B. Join us for our 9-week Fall Spiritual Growth Campaign and Teaching Series called JUICY FRUIT: TRANSFORM YOUR CHARACTER. Each week we will do a deep dive into one of the nine fruits of the Spirit. These are godly character traits that God wants to develop in your life.

²² *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*

²³ *gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."*

Galatians 5:22-23

TODAY Love: Being The Hands & Feet Of Jesus

Oct 11 Joy: Experiencing Joy At All Times

Oct 18 Peace: Overcoming Worry & Conflict

Oct 25 Patience: Trusting God While You Wait

Nov 1 Kindness: Showing Genuine Care

Nov 8 Goodness: Choosing To Do Right

Nov 15 Faithfulness: Unwavering Commitment To God

Nov 22 Gentleness: Managing Anger

Nov 29 Self-Control: Mastering Impulses & Actions

TEXT: I John 4:7-12

The Key Verse For Juicy Fruit Love:

¹¹ *"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."*

I John 4:11

HOW TO BE THE HANDS & FEET OF JESUS

Here is what the “juicy life” process looks like:

Fruit of the Spirit plus Consistency plus Time equals Godly Character.

I. RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU

A. God's love for you is proclaimed in the Bible and proved on the cross.

⁷ *"Beloved..."* I John 4:7a

¹⁶ *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* John 3:16

B. You receive God's love by faith in Christ.

¹² *"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:"* John 1:12

C. At the moment of salvation the Holy Spirit fills you with God's love.

⁵ *"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."* Romans 5:5

II. KNOW GOD AND GROW IN LOVE

A. Love is part of God's nature. You share His nature of love through faith in Christ.

⁷ *"...let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."*

⁸ *He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."* I John 4:7b-8

B. Make it your aim to know God more and more, thus growing in love

¹⁰ *"that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,"* Philippians 3:10

¹² *"And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you,"* I Thessalonians 3:12

III. MEET THE NEEDS OF OTHERS...EVEN WHEN ITS HARD

A. Your greatest need is the forgiveness of sin through the sacrifice of Christ.

⁹ *"In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."* I John 4:9

⁸ *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8

¹ *"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,"* Ephesians 2:1

B. It is your obligation and opportunity to lovingly meet the needs of others.

² *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."* Galatians 6:2

⁴ *"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."*

⁵ *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,"* Philippians 2:4-5