

# A LIFE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

## A LIFE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS - PART 6

Last week we looked at faith in relation to a life of righteousness lived out, and the need for faith to flow from fellowship. We also discussed the faith we are referring to needs to be of the faith that is written - Hebrews 11:1 and of the spirit of faith - 2 Corinthians 4:13.

From this faith we look at the third aspect of a life of righteousness which is “Fruitfulness”.

Mark 4:1-29 is all about the parable of the Sower and the Soil, and it is important to realise and grasp the fact that the spiritual seed produces the spiritual fruit of its own kind in our lives. In other words, the Word of God (the seed), forms and produces the fruit of the Spirit in our inner most being, enabling and empowering us to live from this fruit. The more of the Word of God we are receiving through divine revelation, the more fruit that is being produced in us.

Let's look at the fruit of the Spirit so we are fully aware of the fruit which is to be, being formed and produced in us and coming forth from us. It's important to note it's not the 'fruits' of the Spirit, but the fruit of the Spirit. The more Jesus Christ is our Life, the more these attributes become an innate part of our life, and we live from them.

***Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.***

I love verse 24 where it says, “against such things there is no law”. There isn't a law which defines this fruit of the Spirit, or this fruit of Christ's life. The fruit of Christ's life in us is defined and based on our abiding in Christ, which comes from a genuine knowing of Christ through the Spirit revealing Him in us.

***John 15:4-5 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.***

***John 15:8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.***

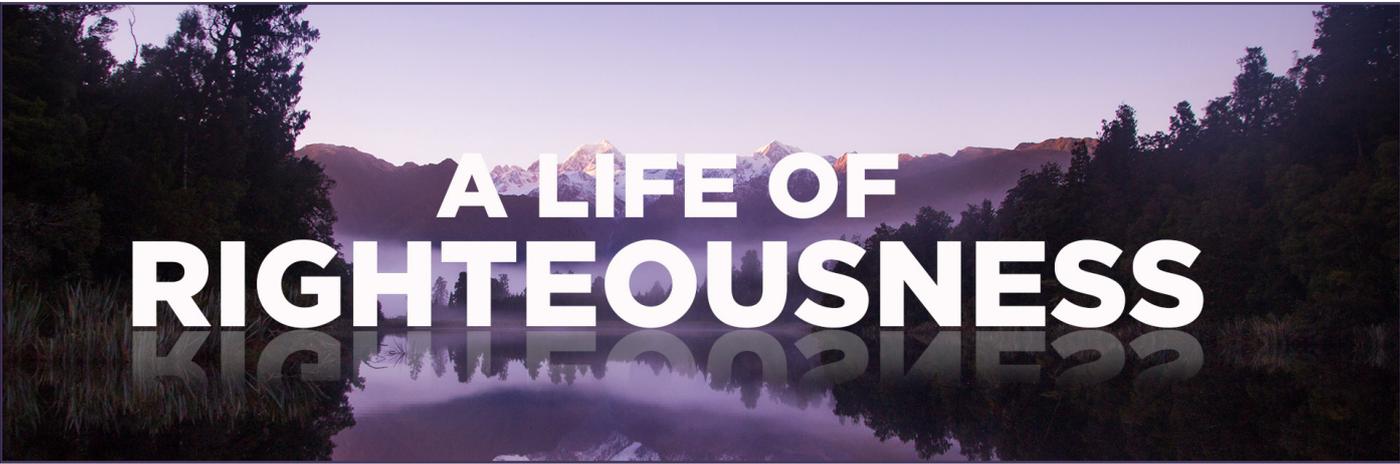
The abiding in Christ and Christ abiding in us is the absolute key to having the fruit of the Spirit established, formed and built in us. The more this fruit is in us the more we can release the nature of God into the earth for all to experience.

As mentioned at the start, the seed produces after its own kind. The spiritual seed of God produces the spiritual fruit of God in our lives. To not be receiving the spiritual seed is to have no fruit. One must learn in and from the Spirit, what it is to receive the Word of God through hearing, accept it as the Word, understand it and have it perform its work in us.

***1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.***

### QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the thoughts, words, concepts or images that come to mind when one thinks of



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fruitfulness?

2. Why is it essential we understand the life giving principle that the seed produces fruit of “its own kind?”
3. In your own words describe the abiding life in Christ which produces the fruit of the Spirit?
4. Why is the Father glorified when much fruit is produced in and through us?
5. What is the connection between the fruit of the Spirit being formed in us and our ability to live out a life of righteousness?

**ACTION POINT:** What action point do we need to take away from tonight and apply to our lives?