

FRUIT THAT'S GOOD FOR THE BODY

LOVE

GALATIANS 5:16-23, I CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

Ron Marsh

April 25, 2010

I. Introduction: The contrast of *works* and *fruit*

- ♦ *We* produce works while *God* produces fruit

II. The need for *love*

A. Love defined by our *culture*

1. Love is a *feeling*

2. Love is *sex*

3. Love is *tolerance*

B. Love defined by *scripture*

1. *Agape* love

a. A love in spite of *circumstances, feelings*

and *who* you are

b. A love that is fueled by the *needs* of others

c. A love that *honors* others

d. A love that is seen in *action*

e. A love that makes a *difference*

III. 10 characteristics of Agape love

E=Excellent, G=Good, N=Needs Improvement

A. () is *patient*

- ♦ How do you respond when people aren't moving as quickly as you like?

E _____ G _____ N _____

B. () is *kind*

- ♦ How are you doing at listening, affirming and encouraging others?

E _____ G _____ N _____

C. () is not *jealous*

- ♦ How do you respond when your neighbor, friend, co-worker or family member gets a promotion, a new car, a new gadget or a big bonus?

E _____ G _____ N _____

D. () does not *brag*

- ♦ How often do you hold your tongue when there's an opportunity to make yourself look good? E _____ G _____ N _____

E. () is not *arrogant*

- ♦ When you make mistakes, how are you doing at admitting you're wrong without rationalizing or defending yourself? E _____ G _____ N _____

F. () is not *rude*

- ♦ How are you doing at saying thank you and giving consideration to others first? E _____ G _____ N _____

G. () does not demand his/her own *way*

- ♦ How are you doing at putting the needs of others first and letting go of your agenda? E _____ G _____ N _____

H. () is not easily *angered*

- ♦ How are you doing at managing your anger? E _____ G _____ N _____

I. () does not hold a *grudge*

- ♦ How often do you recall past events where others have offended or hurt you?

E _____ G _____ N _____

J. () does not rejoice in evil but rejoices in the *truth*

- ♦ How often do you come alongside someone who's hurting because of sin and comfort them? E _____ G _____ N _____