

Not My Job

Monday, 6/14/10 – Read Galatians 5:22 and John 3:3-10

My Observations _____

A Question to Answer: The Fruits of the Spirit are the products of the Spirit of God within us. They are not qualities we are to achieve by our own efforts. When we try to produce these outcomes ourselves, we often obstruct the work of the Holy Spirit within us. This may be hard for us who are used to planning and producing and doing ourselves. ... Jesus said that wind (Spirit!) blows where it will. Do you leave some spaces in your life for feeling the movement of the Spirit? Take a little extra time today for prayer and ask God to help you sense the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life.

Tuesday, 6/15/10 – Read 2 Corinthians 5:10-19 and Galatians 5:22

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Living in relationship with God, living open to the movement of the Spirit of God, produces a transformation in our lives. God produces this transformation. As today’s reading says, “All this is from God” (verse 18) ... What changes do you sense God bringing about in your life? What qualities (joy, peace, trust, generosity, for example) is God nurturing in your spirit? ... Reconciliation is coming into right relationship. Where do you sense God bringing you into right relationship -- with another person? With God?

Wednesday, 6/16/10 – Read Philippians 1:6 and Galatians 5:22

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: The apostle Paul, the writer of Philippians, says that he is confident that God began a good work in the people -- and that God will bring that work to completion. How would you describe the “good work” that God has begun in you? What are the signs you’d point to that God is working in you? (Remember that this is God working in you, not just your own achievement.) ... Are you confident that God will bring God’s work in you to completion?

Thursday, 6/17/10 – Read Ephesians 1:17-23 and Galatians 5:22

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Do you feel or notice the power of God’s Spirit within you? The Bible doesn’t think of the Spirit as distant or removed but close to us, within us. Notice verse 20. This power of God is the same power that raised Christ from the dead. Entertain that possibility. The working of God within you can raise you up to a new quality of living -- just as it raised Christ from the dead. How does it feel to think of resurrection power moving in your life?

Friday, 6/18/10 – Read Mark 9:14-29

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: The disciples were perplexed by their limitations. Jesus was clear with them: “This kind can come out only through prayer.” (verse 29) In other words, this is something God does; not something you can do. We have to **trust** God to do the work; we have to **ask** God to do the work. The Fruit of the Spirit, those wonderful qualities that God’s

Spirit produces in us, are the result of God's work, not the result of our achievement. Are you willing to trust God to produce these results in your life? Are you willing to ask God to produce these qualities in your life?

Saturday, 6/19/10 – Read 1 John 4:13-21

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: John's gospel and this letter of John use the word "**abide**" frequently. "Abide" simply means to stay, to be at home with. What is your relationship with the Spirit of God like? Do you ABIDE with the Spirit? Do you focus your attention frequently on God's Spirit throughout the day? Is the Spirit your "home base" to which you repeatedly return? The Fruit of the Spirit are the products of the Spirit of God within us. But the Spirit cannot do this work in our hearts if our relationship to the Spirit is only fleeting or "hit and run." What can you do today to deepen your ABIDING in God's Spirit? Try to be specific.

**Sunday, 6/20/10 – Read Ephesians 3:14-19
and Galatians 5:22**

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Today's reading is a prayer that the power of the Spirit of God within us will strengthen us, root us in love, bring us knowledge and understanding, and more! Will you make this your prayer today? Maybe rewrite it in your own words and then pray it over a couple times as your own prayer -- that the mighty Spirit of God will work in you and produce in you the Fruits of the Spirit.

My Faith Journal, June 13, 2010

Outcomes #2

Not My Job

What do I hear God saying to me today?

What part is the Spirit's job?

What part is my job?

What action do I intend to take this week?

Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.