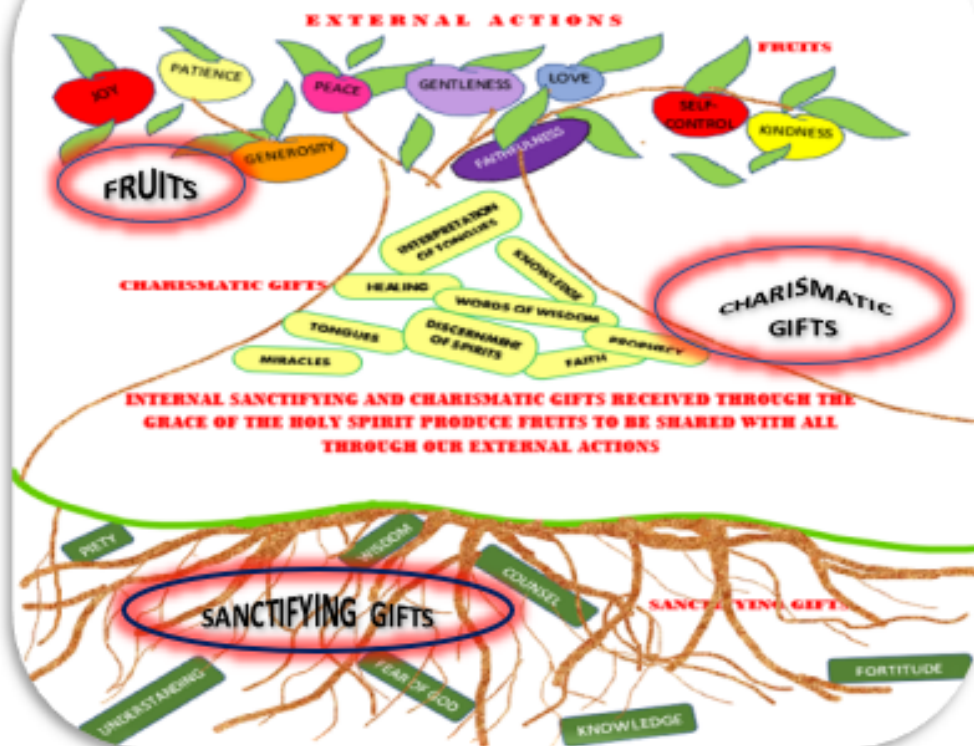


# DESIRE THE GIFTS – LIVE THE FRUITS

## LOVE

### GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



**Colossians 3:14** Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

**John 15:16-17** ... I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you. This I command you: love each other.

**LOVE ...** to St. Paul is above all other gifts and manifestations of The Spirit. Love is a fruit of the Spirit, not a gift of the Spirit. Gifts are given but fruits are developed. We get the gift of the Spirit, and the fruit of that gift is love. Love is God living in us, the result of the gift of the Spirit. We need, however, to use our own will to make wise and spiritually sensible decisions in order to be lovingly responsive to others. With this transformation and our

complete surrender, we have confidence, knowing that the love of The Father is within us. God's fruit of love grows within us, for us to give away freely for others to consume so they not only know our love but have confidence in the love of God. Prayer is especially vital, asking God to reveal to us how to be prudent as we put love into each situation. Additionally, true love is liberating and sets us free to do what is morally right without fear. There is no room for fear in any obstacle because love drives away fear. Our conscience is clear because it is rooted in God's love which was developed as a fruit in our soul. **1 Cor 13** "...do everything in love." That's how Jesus was able to embrace the cross, because he loves the Father and He desires that same love to be within us, because he loves us so very much. **HOLY SPIRIT COME!!**

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER TO ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA THE FRUIT OF LOVE:

St. Teresa, we ask you to pray to Our Heavenly Father, that we may love others as you did. Your heart was so full of joy while serving and loving others unconditionally. Let your example of complete surrender to Our Lord be forever in our hearts and minds. Help us with your prayers to Jesus as we strive to emulate you in all of our actions throughout our day. Remind us of the beauty and love found in each of us and ask God to give us a strong desire to share that love with others. **AMEN**

