

Gal. 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.

Week 6

We've tried to be careful and even cautious when evaluating the character and actions of Joseph Smith. "Christian character in the life of the believer is an essential aspect of Christian living and ministry. Christ has redeemed his people in order to conform them to His image. The end goal of the work of redemption is the glory of God by conforming His people to the image of Christ, God displays His glory in the church...mankind is to reflect the image of God." (Ligonier Ministries). A Christian man or woman should bear the "fruit of the spirit". As we consider the character of Joseph Smith, this isn't to say that he didn't have some good qualities or that we should judge him harshly for being imperfect. God uses imperfect people (David, Moses, Abraham, Peter, Paul and more), and we can't expect Joseph Smith to be perfect. However, we are warned about following false prophets. Joseph Smith introduced and commanded that we accept major doctrinal changes including: a different God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, gospel, atonement, heaven, hell, marriage, temple ordinances, way to salvation, and more. What he ultimately presented was a complete and total change of every major Christian belief and point of doctrine and reinterpreted much of the Bible. We are obligated as defenders of the Christian faith to verify the claims and doctrinal changes of Joseph Smith. Ultimately, the salvation of mankind depends on hearing and receiving the pure, perfect and saving gospel of Jesus Christ. It's imperative that Christians protect that for future generations.

WATCH SESSION 5 - (Approx. 27 minutes)

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS:

- Was there anything in this video that was new information to you or that left you with questions?
- How accurate does a person need to be in order to truly be God's prophet? (Read Deut. 18:20-22)

Pastor Matt said that Jesus laid down His life on the cross as a substitute for sinners, endured the penalty that we deserve so that we can be forgiven, that His sacrifice paid for all our sin, and that He rose from the dead to give us eternal life as a gift of grace. This is the best news in the world.

- Are you ready to receive His gift of love, mercy, forgiveness and grace?

Please follow up on the resource guide as well as further videos and resources provided at: journeyof-grace.com for further research.