

## **Episode 25. "The Fruit of the Spirit, Part Two."**

**Tuesday, November 9, 2021. 43 Minutes Long.**

*Part Two of an unusual discussion on the most important, necessary power in any Christian's life: "The Fruit of the Spirit." This episode builds on Part One, with personal experiences and memories by Owen and John. A unique explanation. (Episode 24 is Part One of "The Fruit of the Spirit.")*

### **John (00:00):**

John Shields opens the episode by saying:

### **John (00:12):**

Well, hello friends! Welcome back! This is Episode 25 in our bi-weekly series of "Saving Christianity." We're coming to you every-other-Tuesday from Christian Family Online. And I'm your host, John Shields, and looking forward to today's podcast. In our previous episode – you may recall, Episode 24 – we discussed "The Fruit of the Spirit, Part One." And in that episode, we talked about the basic principles of the supernatural experience we Christians call *the fruit of the Spirit*. And now, the title of this episode is the "Fruit of the Spirit," and this is "Part Two." And in this episode, we're going deeper into the miracles of the fruit of the Spirit, as it's expressed in the lives of Spirit-filled Christians. And I hope that all of you, our friends listening out there in Podcast Land, have heard Episode 24 of "The Fruit of the Spirit." And now you're ready for "Part Two." I'm excited about this one, Owen, and welcome back to the podcast.

### **Co-Host, Owen Allen, Joins the Conversation (01:28):**

Well, thank you, John! Good to be back! Always good to be back. And especially for "Part Two" of this discussion of "The Fruit of the Spirit." You know, John, the longer I live as a Christian, the more I see how incredibly *important* the fruit of the Spirit really, really is. I would even say ... I would probably hazard a guess ... that the fruit of the Spirit is the *most* important thing about Christianity, other of course, than going to heaven.

### **Owen (01:59):**

So as I often say – speaking of heaven, John – being a Spirit-filled Christian on earth, which means of course ... we saw all this in episode "Part One" ... living daily with the fruit of the Spirit, is *a little bit of heaven here on earth*. It's keeping as I say, "One foot in heaven, while we're here on earth." But as I think about it, John, there may be people listening who haven't yet heard Part One. So ... and it was so important. So why don't we just start with a brief recap of what we discussed in Part One, and then move on from there?

### **John (02:44):**

Yeah, that's a great idea, Owen. Let's do that. So let me start with the first question: What do you think, Owen, were the main points of episode (Part) One?

**Owen (02:55):**

Yeah well, John. As I think about what we covered in Part One. (The) first thing I remember us saying is that the "fruit" is a *singular* word. And that we get *all* of the fruit at one time when we're saved. So it's *plural* emotions, you might say, but the fruit of the Spirit is *one* thing because the Spirit is *one* thing.

**John (03:21):**

Owen, I want to interrupt you there. That ... I think that people may just hear this on the surface and think, "Well, what difference does that make?" And you know, we talked about that at length last ... on episode (Part) One. But I really think we need to circle back and talk about that a little more – in that *why* that is so important, that the Holy Spirit is given to us in *one* "download." Not multiple "downloads." That the Holy Spirit is not "piecemealed" out.

**Owen (03:59):**

I think that was very important when you said that last time, John. And you know, when you think about it, we need *all* of the Holy Spirit. We don't need *part* of Him. And we said last time *that's* what we're really receiving when we become Christians. When He indwells us, and immerses our inner spirit, and awakens it with Spiritual power, and it becomes the Second Motivator inside us to fight all off our flesh – we don't need *just* love ... *just* peace ... *just* joy ... *just* courage. And so, to use your term, God "downloads" them *all* into us the moment we're saved. And we have *all* the equipment we need to face life from that point forward.

**John (04:53):**

Do you think it's uh ... this may sound like a little bit of a cliché. But I was thinking of it in terms of this: The real question is not how much of the Holy Spirit *we* get. We get Him all. The question is how much of *us* does the Holy Spirit get?

**Owen (05:14):**

That's well said. How much are we willing to give up to Him to express – or release – these wonderful supernatural emotions that we talked about in Part One: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, all of those things. And like we said, they're *supernatural*. And one thing I thought about the other day, John. If you go to the wonderful "Love Chapter," we call it, in First Corinthians, chapter 13, where Paul is describing it – he's not describing *human* love there when he goes through all of those points: It's patient, it's kind, it's yada-yada. That's ... nobody loves that way as a *human*. Even your children ... you can't love them that way as a *human*. But that's *supernatural*. So what we want to do is release *supernatural* love with our family, and friends, and children, and everybody we know. Not human love.

**John (06:16):**

Yeah, I think about it, Owen, so often. You know, people say things like, "Well, you know, I'm not *patient*. And I'm not going to pray for patience." Well, that's telling you right there that that's an automatic piecemeal, a misunderstanding of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. So back to what we're saying then, *patience* is going to be a byproduct, if you will. The Holy Spirit is going to produce that *patience* in us. And so we're thinking about it in completely in human terms, if we think, "Oh well, I'm not going to pray for patience." Does that make sense?

**Owen (07:03):**

Yeah. But I'll tell you one deeper on that, John. Many years ago – more years ago than I care to remember – people used to talk about, used to teach, I was taught that you have to ... think about this now. This is scary. You have to *earn* the fruit of the Spirit. You've got to *learn* it the way we would learn in a classroom. And you've got to learn each *one* at a time. Until finally, over period months and years, you master all nine of them that Paul lists (in Galatians 5). But here's the trick: You don't want to try to learn *patience* because (chuckles) God's going to "snatch a knot" in you, if you try to learn patience.

**John (07:47):**

Yeah, *tribulation*!

**Owen (07:49):**

Yeah! Think about how – I'm trying to think of a polite Christian word – how illogical all of that is. See, they're missing the whole point. We don't have to *earn* anything any more than we have to earn *salvation*. The Spirit "downloads," to use your term, these wonderful supernatural emotions in us. They're *all* in there. Where our problem comes is letting them out! Expressing them is our problem.

**John (08:20):**

Allowing, allowing (them). Yeah, *allowing*!

**Owen (08:23):**

Letting it *happen*!

**John (08:23):**

Yeah, yeah. And Owen, this may seem like an insignificant point. And maybe this is just one of my little things that I struggle with. But I often cringe when I hear people refer to the Holy Spirit as "*IT*."

**Owen (08:43):**

Ooh, ouch!

**John (08:43):**

You know?

**Owen (08:48):**

That just stuck me with a knife.

**John (08:49):**

Yeah, yeah. Again, I think that just so moves Him off the radar in terms of the reality of the *Third Person of the Trinity*.

**Owen (09:00):**

Yeah. Well, how do you think *God* feels about that! But the challenge is this: Find me a Scripture where Paul, or Peter, or John, or any of them refer to Him as "*IT*." In every one, they refer to Him as "*HE*."

**John (09:14):**

Yes, right! So there again, you know, we're talking about a Person in totality. And so ...

**Owen (09:25):**

You don't call your child "*it*." Or your spouse "*it*." Why would you call the Holy Spirit "*IT*"?

**John (09:31):**

Yeah, right! And so I think that helps us to come back again understanding the personal nature of who *He* is. And when *He* comes into our life, and indwells us, and then seeks to fill us with His presence – my! Let's just throw this out. There's nothing greater on planet earth than that. *Nothing greater on planet earth*. And here's the other thing. In a world that's upside down, and there's so much hostility, and anger, and you name it, when you throw in what we're talking about – the fruit of the Holy Spirit ... you talk about a *contrast* – that I have to believe that people ... or there's certainly a group of people out there ... that want to experience what we're talking about.

**Owen (10:37):**

And we know that's true, don't we John, from Christian *history*. Like we say over and over and over in these episodes, and we say in our book *Saving Christianity* – there has to be some *reason* why Christianity spread worldwide and only 70 years. There was something about it that people needed. Something about it that attracted people. I've often said ...

**Owen (11:03):**

What if we decided today to create a *new religion*? And many people do that! So we printed magazine articles, and brochures, and we had some TV ads, and we got all this started. Do you think we could go *worldwide* in every village, town, and city in 70 years? I don't think so! (Laughter.) And so the *difference* is that supernatural, glorious power of Spirit-filling and the fruit of the Spirit is what made Christianity not only go worldwide in 70 years, but survive the catastrophic purges, and wars, and Communist Movements, and everything that have been thrown against it.

**John (11:49):**

Yeah and Owen, an illustration that we've used before I think is relevant to what we're talking about now, in terms of experiencing the fruit of the Holy Spirit: For too long we've read the Scriptures as a "Recipe Book." And we read about it and say, "You know what? That really sounds good. Look at all the ingredients that go into this. My, my, wouldn't that be ...

**Owen (12:18):**

... wonderful ...

**John (12:18):**

"Yes, I bet it's warming your mouth." (Your) Spiritual mouth starts watering, you know. But I'm going to tell you, it's a whole different issue to be able to sit down and *experience* it and *eat* it. And I used the silly illustration one time about coming home for dinner, and we sit down at the table. And my wife, she says, "Now, John, open this ... there on your plate is a *Recipe Book*. Turn to page four, and let's read about this *hamburger casserole*."

**John (12:53):**

And I would start reading. And she'd read some. And then I'd read a little bit more, and ...

**Owen (12:59):**

... discuss the different amounts ...

**John (13:00):**

... and we'd discuss the different, "Well, maybe you ought to use a cup instead of a pint," and all these sorts of things and, "Boy, that sounds delicious!" And then we get up ... we close our little Recipe Books, and we get up *hungry*, and thinking about it. And I really, really believe, as silly as that sounds, *talking* about the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our life, that that is most people's *experience*. And I don't say that in a derogatory way. I say it in a sympathetic way. That we've always ... we continue to say here: *We want to be part of the solution*. And that people (chuckles) don't want to just read the Recipe Book here. We want to *do* what the Bible says. And that's, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." (Psalm 34:8)

**Owen (13:51):**

Aren't there some Old Testament verses about the Word of God being "honey in our mouth"? And that's wonderful! (Ezekiel 3:3, and Psalm 119:103)

**John (13:59):**

Absolutely. Yeah, definitely.

**Owen (14:02):**

Well, picking up on what we were trying to remember (chuckles) – what we said in "Part One." One of the ... and this is a part of what we said here ... there's much more of the fruit of the Spirit than the *nine* that Paul listed in Galatians, chapter five. You know, I was told all of my life ... and I still hear it to this day ... and if you pull up "fruit of the Spirit" in Mr. Google – and after all, he knows everything – you'll see that most of the articles quote Paul and his *nine* emotions: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, *et cetera*. "That" is the "fruit of the Spirit." But if you turn to page 167 in our book, you'll see a complete list there with references of a minimum of *twenty* fruit of the Spirit. And boy, some of them are good. Now we know about love, joy, peace. That's great. But what about *courage*, and what about *hope*, and what about *insight*, and what about *understanding*, and these wonderful, wonderful things. It just blows your mind.

**John (15:14):**

And to think, Owen, we keep coming back to this. They say *repetition* of course is a key to learning. Well, we're *definitely* a lot of repetition. (Laughter.) We're *definitely* doing that! But I keep coming back to this: Just how incredible, and amazing, and miraculous, that when you think that if you are a Christ-Follower, you have been *indwelt* with the Holy Spirit. That literally, *that* is within you. That invisible peace, God's Spirit, God places *within* us. That all of that is *there*. It's right *there* at our disposal. And God gives us that – out of that – the ability to "produce" ... back to that word ... that that will be "produced" in our life. It's just nuts, it's so good!

**Owen (16:24):**

Well, and I want to stick in something sideways here, John. You know, one of the things that we talk about so much, and emphasize in the book, is the importance of *experiencing* Christianity. *Experiencing* it. Not talking about it. Not reading about it. Not thinking about it. But *experiencing* it. And I want to just say this to you. There was a time in my life when I did a lot of "witnessing" to people. And we went out in teams actually on the streets, and prayed with people that we found in parks and things. And some of the *experiences* that I had in those days just are incredible. And one that I often had that was so touching was that you would pray for people to become Christians, and you would – you could *see* some of them felt the Spirit indwell them. And they would say to me, they would look at me in shock and say, "I feel it. I feel it. I *feel* it!" And you know, that really impressed me. I still think about that to this day. So Christianity is *not* an idea. It's *not* a concept. It is a very real physical *experience*.

**John (17:51):**

Yeah! (Chuckles.) It's crazy good. And it's God. It just shows us so much of who He is, and His desire for our life, that He would do that for us. And give us Himself. I mean, that's what we're talking about. He gives us Himself to enable us to live, really, like we were *supposed* to live all the time. You know (chuckles), that was His *original* plan. That that would be the way it is. But thankfully, He intervened in history and made a way. And that's what we're talking about today. You mentioned something else, Owen. That, yes, Paul is ... usually gets the most ink relative to what we're talking about. But that we don't often remember that *Jesus* had more to say. Talk about that a little bit.

**Owen (18:56):**

Well, He really did. You know, we were talking off-mic earlier about some of these wonderful Scriptures. In fact, I'll mention it, maybe in a few minutes, but one of my favorite passages of Scripture is so deep and so beautiful: And that's John, chapter 15, approximately verses 1 to 16. It's all about the *fruit of the Spirit*. People don't even realize that. The word that John is using there (is) our word, *karpos*, meaning the "produce," or what the Spirit "results" in us.

**Owen (19:37):**

And so also in Matthew. I think we mentioned briefly back in Part One, where Jesus said, "You'll know them by their *fruit*." And that was *karpos* again as "fruit" of the Spirit. Well, so that's Jesus talking, though, in *long* passages of Scripture. That's not ... Paul has one – actually two – little verses. (Chuckles.) And Jesus has whole *sections* of chapters in the Gospels talking about the fruit of the Spirit.

**Owen (20:12):**

And few people ever mention that. So what I'm saying is, it's *good* to read Paul. And he's probably my favorite First Century character. But the other thing we want to keep in mind is that our Savior, *Jesus*, is the one that did all of this. And in fact, you know one of my favorite things is ... we won't get into this today. But the fact when He *promised* – when He told them that He was leaving to go back to heaven – and He *promised* them something very interesting.

**Owen (20:48):**

He said, "When I get back to heaven ..." Now hold it. Time out. How often do we know what's happening in *heaven*? Think about that a second. So Jesus said, "Now, gang, here's the plan. When I get back to heaven, I'm going to go to the Father. I'm going to ask him to *give Me* the Holy Spirit. And when He does, I'm going to take Him and *pour Him out*." And the Greek word is like you're *pouring water* out of a pitcher. "I'm going to *pour Him out* on you. And then all this will happen: You'll be indwelt, you'll have these wonderful, wonderful things inside." So I love Paul and I teach on his life. In fact, we have an episode about his life. But let's all remember that *Jesus* is the one that did it.

**John (21:47):**

Yes, absolutely. And that is really ... we know from start to finish that the Christian life, the Christian experience ... being born-again ... being saved ... regenerated, whatever your tradition would call it, is really from start to finish and everything in between completely dependent upon our *cooperation* with the Holy Spirit. This is "Christ in us," Paul would keep saying. Or that *is* Christ in us!

**Owen (22:24):**

Yeah, absolutely!

**John (22:25):**

The Holy Spirit *is* Christ in us.

**Owen (22:28):**

That's what he *said!*

**John (22:28):**

Yeah, that's what he *said!* Yeah, and that was not just a ... some little religious saying he was tweeting out there. That was the reality of Christ *in* me. You know, he would say over and over again ... and let me just toss this over in the mix. I think that so many people, standing from a distance, are looking at Christianity from any different angle. And they're thinking, "Well, this is impossible!"

**John (23:04):**

You know, "I know *me* better than anyone else. And this is, this is ludicrous. This is impossible." And the point that the answer to that is – is you're exactly *right*. And that *is* the point. That it *is* impossible. It's not a human deal. And so that's the Good News. When a person says, "Wow, this is impossible, I can't do this." Well, you're at a place that you are (chuckles) ready to *experience* what we're talking about: To allow the Lord, to lean into Him, and allow His Spirit within us. Which Owen, which brings me back to one of the points we talked about. And that is that the fruit we're talking about here is *from the Holy Spirit*. It's from Him. And so only *Christians* have that. And that's ... I think that's an important distinction.

**Owen (24:05):**

Well, it really is! You know, you stop and think about it. We've said this before on these episodes, I believe. If we didn't, we *should* have. And that is that I don't know of any other religion on the planet that teaches its members what we're talking about. Most of them don't ever ... don't even *know* there's a Holy Spirit, Number One. But even if they *did* – which they don't – they don't know anything about *indwelling*. They don't know anything about the wonderful miraculous powers that the Spirit gives us. So this is a unique feature. And you know, that's not an ugly thing. Rather than the other religions resenting that, they should come *get* part of it.



(Chuckles.) You know, like they did in the First Century. And I want to throw this in real quick, John. It's not only we talked about knowledge, and courage, and all the *fruit* of the Spirit.

**Owen (25:03):**

Well, some of them we don't even understand. I just read yesterday an article about a lady on a farm. I love these true stories. And they were a Christian family living on a farm. Well, she was cooking dinner and happened to look out the window. And – you stop right there! *How* and *why* did she stop and look out the window? She doesn't know. But she did. And she saw right out there in the field, her husband was plowing with a tractor. And the tractor hit a stump and turned over while she was watching and pinned him to the ground. Now, here they are, on this lonely farm all alone. She had a young boy, I think was 10. So they ran out and he was pinned under the tractor. And the steering wheel of the tractor was crushing his chest. And he looked at her, and he said, "Dear, I don't think I can make it."

**Owen (25:59):**

You know what she did? *She picked up the tractor and held it up.* And the little boy drug the father out. And she stood there and held the tractor because his foot was caught. And she said to the little boy, "Go get help!" And he ran off. And a little while later he came back with two or three strong men from another farm. And they held the tractor and got the man out. And then they took him to the hospital and everything, and he was fine. *Stop the clock!* How can a lady cooking supper run out and pick up a tractor? But she did it. It was a true story, published in a paper. So I'm telling you that they are marvels, and miracles, and incredible things that we Christians *experience*. And a lot of times, we don't even tell other people. But it's true and it's real.

**John (26:56):**

Yeah, I'd like to just throw in one, Owen. Just as fresh as yesterday for me. I was talking to an individual yesterday that retired out of the Special Forces (part of the army). And he's been in a lot of bad stuff. And seen and experienced and done that *war* brings. And he found himself toward the end of his career, and then he retired and he found himself drowning in ... and the way he chose to deal with it was through alcohol. And he was literally drinking himself to death. And he said he was sitting in his home by himself, and determined that this was "it." That this is the end of his *life*. He's just going to just ... just going to kill him(self). And now there is no other explanation but the Holy Spirit. God came to that man and completely in a *moment* changed him and saved his life.

**John (28:07):**

And he worships in our local congregation. I see him every week. I know the reality of what is taking place in his life. And we talked about that yesterday and, tears in his eyes, just blown away (by) God's intervention. And that's the kind of thing that we're talking about here. This is *not* getting a Sunday school attendance badge (laughter). Right? This is not about – which is fine! – this is *not* about a choir number that moves you – and that's fine! – but we're talking about

Christ *in* us, a transformation going on that plays out ... I keep using this ... in real time "High Definition," just *bright* in our very life, is being lived out in this.

**Owen (29:12):**

And you know, John, that's not as rare a thing. You hear a lot of those stories. But I'll tell you one, too. So quickly: My wife's father was a drunk of that type. And when he was a younger man, on this one particular night, about two in the morning, he was lying in a ditch unconscious drunk. Lying in a ditch. *And the Holy Spirit came to him.* Instantly, he was sober. He stood up out of the ditch. He walked to the nearest neighbor's house and rang the bell. They got up and let him in. And it's a long, long story. But he told them what had happened. He became a *pastor*, and lived out his life as a *pastor* locally. So just imagine the power. So again, what are we talking about? We're talking about *the fruit of the Spirit*. What does the Holy Spirit "produce" in people's lives? It's just ... I don't have any words. It's just a *miracle*.

**John (30:22):**

Yeah, Owen. I think about this as a pastor ... local *pastor* myself. I think about this. So let's just be silly again and say things something like this: "Well, we want you to come worship with us." And people are thinking, "Well, I don't even know what that *means*." Or, they're thinking, "Oh, you mean you want me to come to this ... (*inaudible*) ... yeah, I think I tried that back when I was 12."

**John (30:57):**

Or they say, "Well, oh, you mean you want me to come to a place at a specific time, dressed a certain way, and I'm going to follow this program. And then you're going to talk to me a little while – make me feel guilty. And then you're going to hand this little gold-plated plate around and ask for money. And then you want me to fill out a card with everything but a blood test. And they're going to hand me some cookies on the way out." And that's what you're thinking. Now, contrast that with what we're talking about today. No! We're talking about we ... *God's* heart ... way more than ours. *God's* heart is that you *experience* Him, the *fruit*.

**Owen (31:44):**

I mean, how we've *trivialized* Him. You know, I had a guy one time that said something that I still remember. It rings in my ears. He looked at me and he said, "Don't you think God is *bigger* than what you see on Sunday morning?"

**John (31:58):**

Yes! Amen!

**Owen (32:01):**

Ouch, ouch, ouch.

**John (32:02):**

"I'll go lie down now," as you say!

**Owen (32:05):**

Glory, hallelujah. But see, in the First Century this power *changed* the world. It changed human history. Human history was never the same after that morning – nine o'clock that morning, on May the 30th, in 30 AD, when Jesus *poured out the Spirit*. And Peter said that. He stood on that rooftop and spoke to the people in the street. And he said, "*This* is what He promised. He went to heaven and he *poured it out* on us." (Acts 2:33) And they said, "Where do *we* get it?" And 3,000 of them *got* it. Isn't that a wonderful thing?

**John (32:51):**

Yeah, Owen. I want us to ... for you to mention again about the "Fruit Stand." I think that this is such a good story of what we're talking about here.

**Owen (33:04):**

Well, it was a story we told in Part One about my wife likes fresh fruit. And how when we drive to the country, she makes me stop at every fruit stand every mile along the way. But there's one particular fruit stand, I can see it in my mind's eye. It has a great big *yellow sign* on top. And it says, "*Fresh Produce*." And so we stop there. She likes that one. And she buys apples, and peaches, and whatever they've got.

**Owen (33:35):**

But every time we do that, I sit in the car and I look at that sign. "*Fresh Produce*." And instead of thinking about peaches and apples, I think about the *Holy Spirit*. Because we know that the Greek word *karpos*, which we translate "fruit," actually translates as *produce*. So I said in Part One, that the Holy Spirit gives *the most fresh produce* of anybody I know. Because He *produces* in us – the *result* of Him in us – is that supernatural love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, hope, courage, insight – all of those twenty powerful emotions, supernatural emotions. They come from the Throne Room of Heaven. That's where they come from.

**John (34:28):**

Owen, do you think maybe the local congregation ...

**Owen (34:30):**

... (*inaudible*) ... Wi-Fi.

**John (34:33):**

... think about the congregation! The local congregation. Maybe we ought to be called a "*Produce Department*." (Laughter.) I used to work, I used to work in a Produce Department.

**Owen (34:49):**

So did my son. My *son* did, too!

**John (34:49):**

Boy, I remember that so well. And wouldn't you like to think that we would be – people would look through our window and go, "Wow, that's a great ... talk about a fresh market! That's it right there with all of that *produce*. Look at how beautiful that is! I want to *taste* and *see*. I want to *experience*. I want to walk around in there and see what's going on!"

**Owen (35:11):**

Great example, great example.

**John (35:16):**

Yeah, absolutely.

**Owen (35:16):**

"Come see *God's* Produce Market." (Laughter.) Or better than that, "Come *Experience* It." Or better than that, "Come And *Own* It."

**John (35:25):**

There you go!

**Owen (35:26):**

Oh, Hallelujah.

**John (35:26):**

And you may want to start with the sample. (Laughter.) But then you're going to want the whole thing for sure. You know, imagine ... which obviously we're trying to do ... if we can get *that* word out. If people can see that experience, see it in us. I love that. Paul said so many times, "Hey look, imitate *me*."

**Owen (35:48):**

Yeah! Exactly!

**John (35:49):**

I mean, as you have told the story – reminded us, you know – they didn't have a leather-bound, signature, different version of the Bible. You know, they didn't have an iPad or iPhone. They didn't have all of these things. And so they're, they're living this out in *real time*. And we don't know what to do. What does that look like? How does this ... and Paul said, "Oh, wow, just watch *me*. Imitate *me*."

**Owen (36:25):**

Don't struggle. Just look.

**John (36:25):**

Yeah. "Imitate *me*, and you'll see what Christ can do." And he does. That wasn't being arrogant, or bragging. He just was simply saying, "Look, this is Christ. This is what Christ does in a person. And so just watch how I act, interact, behave, *et cetera*. And you'll get a taste of what I'm talking about."

**Owen (36:49):**

Yeah. You know John, as so often, one of my favorite Scriptures that I just love to read and think about is where Paul says in his first letter to the small groups in Corinth, Greece, chapter two, verse 14, maybe? (Actually, First Corinthians 2:4) Where he says ... he's reminding them about when he first came to them seven years previously. I guess they'd forgotten, I don't know why. But he says, "Now remember when I first came to you?" He said, "My words, my message, my teaching was not" – and I love that word persuasive – "of *persuasive* human words," he said. "Instead, it was a demonstration of the *Spirit's power*."

**Owen (37:38):**

So see, when he walked into the pagan city of Corinth, one of the most hateful, shocking cities – it was known for that – on the planet. And he walked in just cold, and started establishing Christian small groups there. Well, how could he do that? What could he say that would have convinced them to give up the horrible things they were doing? He *couldn't* say anything. They just saw the *Spiritual power* in his life. And they said, "Whoa, we need to listen to this guy!" And he converted that city.

**John (38:19):**

Yeah, yeah, amazing. And remember, Jesus at the end of the Sermon on the Mount – and the people said, "Well, wait a minute! There's something different about Him. He speaks with authority." That's good. These words weren't just falling to the ground. This wasn't just some, you know, flavor of the month. This had real life-changing effect and *power*. And that's what we're talking about.

**Owen (38:48):**

Well, it is, it is. And the whole key, as we said in Part One, is being *Spirit-filled*. Remember, we said that the fruit of the Spirit, *expressing* that at your life, was the "sign," if you want to call it that. The "hallmark." The "symbol." Whatever term you like, that you're *Spirit-filled*. The sign of Spirit-filling is *the fruit of the Spirit*. That's an amazing thing when you stop and think about it. And so that's what Jesus said: "You will know them by their *fruit*." If you see *karpos* coming down the street, you know that person's *Spirit-filled*.

**John (39:30):**

Yeah, yeah, amen! Yeah. Well this is *great*, Owen. I just loved, I loved talking about this. Our podcast listeners, I'm just ... we're just hoping and praying that you're marinating on this, and just thinking about it. And that the *Holy Spirit* that we're talking about, that He is making Himself very, very obvious to you. That is our prayer today.

**Owen (40:01):**

And as we say so often John, "There's no change without change." And He *will* ... He *can* ... He *does* change our lives. The first time I encountered the fruit – I think I may have mentioned that in the episode we did about me personally. It was so incredibly *changing* that when I came home from that trip old friends didn't *recognize* me. That's how different – imagine! – that was. And that's the *power* of God. And what we're praying is that everybody listening, everybody out there in Podcast Land, listening to this episode on Spirit-filling and the power of the fruit of the Spirit, will *partake* of it. God said, "Taste and see that I'm good." (Psalm 34:8)

**Owen (41:00):**

All you have to do is *pray* for it. All you have to do is just say, "God, I don't know what any of this is. But I *want* it. *Give* it to me, ever how you want to. I *take* it." And that's all it is. It's nothing else needed.

**John (41:17):**

Amen. I'm glad it's not complicated.

**Owen (41:22):**

Yeah. If it was, I couldn't do it.

**John (41:23):**

Me either! Yeah, yeah.

**Owen (41:25):**

Well, I don't know, John. I just ... there's something about me every time we do an episode, I don't want stop. I just want to go on into the evening or something. We can't do that. So I guess we better ... the big clock on the wall's glaring at me now again. So I guess we better end Part

Two here. I wish we could keep going, and do other parts. And you know what? We probably will. I think we will (chuckles) need to do some future episodes on the fruit of the Spirit.

**John (42:00):**

I'm sure we will. And I just want to remind our friends that this is Episode 25. And that a script and a recording of this is on our website at: [www.goSCpod.com](http://www.goSCpod.com). That's G-O-S-C-P-O-D.com.

**Owen (42:20):**

That's right, John. This was a wonderful, wonderful episode because we have a wonderful, wonderful *God*. We have a wonderful, wonderful *Holy Spirit*. But for the moment, this is Owen Allen ...

**John (42:32):**

... and this is John Shields, speaking for me and for our producer, Shannon Wolf ...

**Owen (42:36):**

... saying: May the God of our fathers, bless you, and keep you, and guide you, and protect you, until we meet again.

**Owen and John (43:00):**

Owen and John end the episode.