

**October 15th, Joy in a World of Suffering**  
**Part 2 in the series “Getting Ripe with God”**

What were some things from this message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Do you have a favorite sit-com? If so, who are the dysfunctional characters?

Do you think the nine qualities listed in Galatians are a comprehensive list of the fruit of the Spirit? Do you think there are other attributes that could be on the list?

Jim said gratitude, like humility, is not a character quality but a posture we assume. How would you describe the difference between a character quality and a posture?

What would you say is the opposite of gratitude?

How does gratitude help us cultivate the fruit of the Spirit, specifically joy?

If only we can choose gratitude, and gratitude always produces joy, how is joy a fruit of the Spirit?

What is the difference between happiness and joy?

What is the necklace analogy? What does it have to do with joy?

Why does God want our lives to be filled with joy?

**Philippians 4:4** “Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!”

What are some of the things for which we can choose to be grateful, even in times of difficulty?