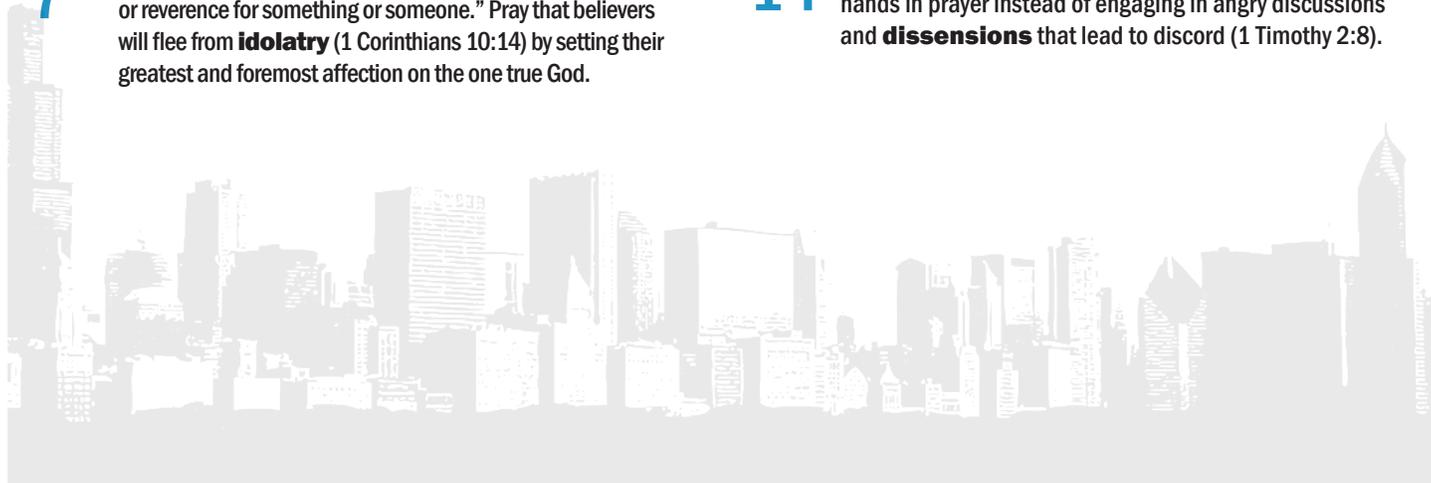


MANIFESTING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

The deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law (Galatians 5:19-23 NASB).

- 1 As we begin a new year, thank God that through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life has set us completely free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2).
- 2 During seasons of revival, the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of God's children becomes very obvious. Pray today for the kind of revival where Christians repent from pursuing the desires of the flesh and commit to walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16).
- 3 Since man's fleshly desires and the ways of the Spirit stand in direct opposition to one another, pray that your church family will discern the difference between the two and experience the power of Christ to walk in victory over sin (Galatians 5:17).
- 4 Paul told the Thessalonians that it was God's will for them to abstain from sexual **immorality** (1 Thessalonians 4:3). Let's pray that the Holy Spirit will sweep through your congregation, moving everyone to turn from pursuing immorality to pursuing holiness instead.
- 5 The Bible tells us that God has not called us to **impurity**, but to sanctification (1 Thessalonians 4:7). Pray that in the lives of your friends, impure thoughts and actions will be replaced by those that are set apart for God's glory and honor.
- 6 Since the way a person thinks and lives out their life can greatly influence others, pray that Christians will not follow their **sensuality** and malign the way of the truth for others (2 Peter 2:2).
- 7 The word *idolatry* can be defined as "extreme admiration, love, or reverence for something or someone." Pray that believers will flee from **idolatry** (1 Corinthians 10:14) by setting their greatest and foremost affection on the one true God.
- 8 Hearts and minds through the ages have often been lured away from a Spirit-filled walk by a focus on witchcraft, divination, and **sorcery** (Deuteronomy 18:10; 2 Chronicles 33:6). Pray that those who practice this wickedness will not be able to entrap the people of your community.
- 9 In today's church, many have allowed **enmities** to develop between them. A person can even become an enemy of God when he or she becomes a friend of the world (James 4:4). Pray that Christians will not oppose or become hostile toward God or each other, but will daily experience the unifying love of Jesus.
- 10 Pray that God will protect your church family from individuals who have "a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words" (1 Timothy 6:4). These people often spread **strife** and evil suspicions.
- 11 Pray that the members of your church family will not relate to each other out of **jealousy** or selfish ambition (James 3:16). James says these sinful ways are the birthing place for disorder and every evil thing.
- 12 Pray that those around you who struggle with anger will be set free from this sinful attitude. Pray that their **outbursts of anger** (Galatians 5:20) will disappear completely because of the abiding presence of Christ in them.
- 13 Pray that the leaders of your church will "avoid foolish controversies . . . and **disputes** about the Law," since these are unprofitable and worthless (Titus 3:9).
- 14 Pray that the men of your congregation will lift up holy hands in prayer instead of engaging in angry discussions and **dissensions** that lead to discord (1 Timothy 2:8).



- 15** Pray that God will protect your congregation from divisive individuals who use their words and actions to divide church families into sinful, self-condemned **factions** (Titus 3:10-11).
- 16** Pray that your church's leaders and members will "not become boastful, challenging one another, **envying** one another" (Galatians 5:26).
- 17** Just as Jesus warned His disciples to be on guard against sin, pray that the hearts of your Christian friends will "not be weighted down with dissipation, **drunkenness**, and the worries of life" (Luke 21:34).
- 18** Pray that the Christians in your community will "behave properly as in the day, not in **carousing** and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy" but instead clothing themselves with the Lord Jesus (Romans 13:13-14).
- 19** Pray today that everyone in your church family will **love** God with all their heart, soul, and mind and will love their neighbors as they love themselves (Matthew 22:37-39).
- 20** As it was with the first followers of Christ, pray that today's believers will continually be filled with **joy** and with the Holy Spirit (Acts 13:52).
- 21** Romans 8:6 says that the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and **peace**. In a world of turmoil where even many Christians are struggling to walk in peace, pray that every believer will learn how to set his or her mind on the Spirit.
- 22** As we look at those who have gone before us, who through faith and **patience** inherited the promises of God, pray that today's Christians will also practice patience and diligence in their walk with Christ (Hebrews 6:11-12).
- 23** Pray that the members of your church family will not let **kindness** and truth leave them, but will bind these qualities around their necks and write them on the tablets of their hearts (Proverbs 3:3).
- 24** Just as Paul prayed for the church at Thessalonica, pray that God will count your church family members worthy of their calling and will "fulfill every desire for **goodness** and the work of faith with power" (2 Thessalonians 1:11).
- 25** In Matthew 23:23, Jesus pronounced woe on the scribes and Pharisees because they tithed mint, dill, and cumin, but neglected justice, mercy, and **faithfulness**. Pray that today's church will be faithful to do everything that pleases God.
- 26** Pray that today's Christians will sanctify Christ as Lord in their hearts and will always be ready to make a defense to everyone who asks them to give an account for the hope that is in them, with **gentleness** and reverence (1 Peter 3:15).
- 27** Paul wrote that in the last days, difficult times will come, in part because many individuals will not have **self-control** (2 Timothy 3:1-3). Pray that the men and women in your church will be dead to selfish desires and will walk under the controlling influence of the Spirit of Christ.
- 28** Pray that Christians in our nation will learn how to put on the Lord Jesus Christ and will consistently make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts (Romans 13:14).
- 29** Remembering how Christians have been called to freedom from the Law, pray that we as believers we will not turn our freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love will serve each other (Galatians 5:13).
- 30** Pray that your church staff and the members of your church family will walk by the Holy Spirit, finding the spiritual power needed to not carry out the desires of the flesh (Galatians 5:16).
- 31** As we conclude this month, let's take some time and meditate on all that God has done in providing us with life through His Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11).