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FRUIT INSPECTOR

Being a Pentecostal describes one that believes in the gifts of the Spirit. They are listed in 1 Corinthians chapter 12 and are still in operation today. They include:

1. Word of Wisdom.
2. Word of Knowledge
3. Faith
4. Gifts of healing
5. Working of Miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of spirits
8. Diverse kinds of tongues
9. Interpretation of tongues

These gifts are given to the church by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:11) as He decides. They cannot be earned. They are endowed by God through the Holy Spirit. Each of these gifts are still in operation today, and for a church to be healthy, they should be manifesting in each church.

Even though God loves to lavish gifts on his children, God desires that we have spiritual fruit in our lives. Paul said in Philippians 4:17, ***“Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.”*** They had supported his ministry, but he wanted them to bear fruit even if it meant they didn't send him gifts. I will not discount the gifts, but let's see why fruit is more important to God. The fruit of the Spirit are:

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Longsuffering
5. Gentleness
6. Goodness
7. Faith
8. Meekness
9. Temperance

Many seek after the gifts, but we should desire the fruit in our lives first. If we grow the fruit of the Spirit, you can be sure that the gifts will come with it. Having a spiritual gift(s) without fruit, especially love would be so detrimental. It can cause pride to come in and take over one's life.

We should examine ourselves daily to see if there is fruit in our lives. If we are lacking in any of the [9] fruit, then we should repent. We should concentrate on fruit rather than gifts.