

The 12 Days of Christmas Revisited

Ninth Day of Christmas, 1/2 – Ladies dancing



Scripture: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. **Galatians 5:22-26**

The fruit of the Spirit is listed in Galatians here at the end of chapter 5. It is one fruit with nine parts. When we are one with Christ, we are longing to do what God would have us do. When we say we want to do the will of God, we are leaning into God's imagination for this world. God's will does not then seem like something harsh or difficult for us, but it is our moving toward the understanding that God is always working for good in the world. Not just my world or your world, but the whole world. It is "responding to the reality of God", our church's vision.

As this happens, there is fruit in our lives...love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Fruit is the result of the growth of a healthy plant. And so it is with this fruit. It is the result of our life lived close to God, following Jesus and gifted by the Holy Spirit. It makes you feel like dancing.

Dancing is an expression of joy. It is allowing our bodies to move freely as a result of the joy inside of us. The joy of being God's. Of continuing to do God's work. When was the last time you recognized this joy inside of you. Joy is an interior emotion not dictated by outward circumstances. Look for that joy in your faith today. And dance!