

West Valley Church of Christ – May 25, 2026

18604 Lower Buckeye Rd.
Goodyear AZ 85338
wvcochrist.com

Mailing Address:
8223 North 171st Lane
Waddell, AZ 85355

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Devotional: 6:00 p.m.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT (2)

Love is the first fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23 and it is no wonder why. “God is love” (1 John 4:8). The Greek word for “is” in 1 John 4:8 is ESTIN. The word takes us beyond a simple view of God’s activity and embraces His very nature. In other words, we cannot separate how God moves and acts apart from who He is. Love is essential to the character of God, and the cross reminds us vividly of this truth. Any attempt to talk of true love apart from God would shortchange the meaning of the word. We develop God’s type of love in our own hearts as we journey with Jesus. 1 John 4:12, “No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.” God’s love yields good fruit in our lives that can be seen and felt by others as we give our lives in service to Jesus. The fruit of love was most clearly personified in Jesus’ giving His life as sacrifice for our sins. “This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only son into the world that we might live through him. This is love; not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” (1 John 4:9-11). There is no greater motivation to love one another than God’s great love for us. **7** “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love” **(1 John 4:7-8).**

Clark Tatum