## ACTIONS > WORDS

by Laura Zielke

The evidence of one's faith is often referred to as "fruit of the Spirit" because Christians rely on the Spirit to guide them and develop their character. It's also sometimes called "Christ-like behavior" or "Christ-like character."

In other words, our actions (a.k.a. fruit) demonstrate that we are indeed following the teachings of Jesus. The "fruit" is also a pretty simple way for others to discern whether not someone who claims to follow Jesus actually does—of if they're just saying it to manipulate public opinion.

The Apostle Paul wrote to Christians in Galatia: "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."

Christians, don't assume someone shares your faith because they "say" they do... Examine the evidence. Look at their FRUIT.

