



Christopher J. H. Wright,
author of *Cultivating the Fruit
of the Spirit: Growing in
Christlikeness*

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Missionary, Teacher, Preacher

Christopher J. H. Wright (PhD, Cambridge) is international ministries director of the Langham Partnership, which provides literature, scholarships, and preaching training for pastors in Majority World churches and seminaries. He has written many books, including *The Mission of God*, *Old Testament Ethics for the People of God*, and *Knowing Jesus Through the Old Testament*, and commentaries on Deuteronomy, Jeremiah, Lamentations, and Ezekiel.

With Wright's latest volume, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*, he puts forth a new book based on sermons he gave about the fruit of the Spirit. These sermons came out of an emphasis by Langham Partnership in the UK and Ireland to help people grow in Christlikeness. The vision was that Christians and churches worldwide should grow in depth of spiritual maturity, not just in numbers.

Wright explores Paul's argument that if we live by the Spirit then we will become more like Christ as he is being formed within us. "Therefore the fruit of the Spirit describe, in a sense, the character of Jesus," Wright says. "They are not a new list of 'things you have to do.' But rather, they are the organic fruit of the life of God within – as a tree bears fruit. I connect each word to the character of God and of Christ before discussing what it might mean in our practical lives."

"Through this book, Chris invites you to join him as well," says Lindsay Olesberg, author of *The Bible Study Handbook*. "Rarely is the wisdom of a theologian of such caliber this accessible. So grab your Bible, pull up a seat, and explore what the Scripture has to say about life in the Spirit."

Wright was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1947, the son of missionary parents, and was nurtured as an Irish Presbyterian. After university in Cambridge, he started his career as a schoolteacher in Grosvenor High School, Belfast. Then, after completing a doctorate in Old Testament economic ethics in Cambridge, he was ordained in the Anglican Church of England in 1977 and served as an assistant pastor in the Parish Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, Tonbridge, Kent.

An ordained priest in the Church of England, Wright spent five years teaching the Old Testament at Union Biblical Seminary in India and thirteen years as academic dean and then principal of All Nations Christian College, an international training center for crosscultural mission in England. He was chair of the Lausanne Theology Working Group from 2005-2011 and the chief architect of The Cape Town Commitment from the Third Lausanne Congress, 2010.