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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **To the Good People of Saint Mark**  My Father was a great water skier, and would set aside several weeks in the summer for his high school group at some forgotten place on a lake shore and call it "Survival Camp." There is something about leaving your home environment and taking the journey into someone else's world that creates a subtle spiritual backdrop. In some ways I think that is what journeying into other regions we would normally avoid can teach us; what the soul needs to survive.  One sees others who many times live in conditions we would not choose, and yet they survive; we can witness this. And then we go through the strip down process of leaving what is comfortable to us, and find what it is that we need to really "survive" as well. The Scripture for this Sunday comes from Galatians 5, often called "The Fruits of the Spirit." They are listed as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.  We look forward to our ASP team sharing in the service about their time of "survival" in West Virginia. As they share, I hope we can all be mindful of these same words of what makes for survival from the Gospel; again, "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control." They will be given tangible voice through the "mouth of babes" form our ASP team.  **See you then**  **Peace**  **Pastor Jay** | | |