

The design and desire of the Father and Christ is that we bear much fruit!

June 30, 2024 - John 15:1-11, Part 1

John 15:1-11

¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

²Every branch in me that does not *bear fruit* he takes away, and every branch that does *bear fruit* he prunes, that it may *bear more fruit*.

³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot *bear fruit* by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that *bears much fruit*, for apart from me you can do nothing.

⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you *bear much fruit* and so prove to be my disciples.

⁹As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Lessons from the garden!

Vines, branches, fruit, and the vinedresser! (15:1-3)

→ what is spiritual fruit?

Displaying the character of Christ (Gal. 5:22-23; Matt. 7:20); a turn from former life (Matt. 3:8); spiritual growth (Rom. 6:22); righteousness: love, knowledge, discernment, what is excellent, pure, blameless (Phil. 1:9-11).

Two ways they work towards this...

1. Pruning

Cutting away what is fruitless so fruit can flourish!

→ In light of the fact we bearing fruit by abiding in Christ (4)...

- 1) What is there's no fruit? (2,3,6)
- 2) what enhances bearing fruit?
- 3) What hinders bearing fruit!

2. Abiding in Christ

1) bears fruit (4-5)

(Next week)
2) prayer (7-8)

3) love (9-10

4) joy (11)

--- Revelation Demands Response ---

The vinedresser (Father) and the Vine (Christ) are present and working in your life that you might bear much fruit.

- 1. What is in your life that might not be sinful, but diverts you from full focus on Christ?
- 2. What are some ways you can "abide" in Christ more consistently?

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SUNDAY after church...

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give!

2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

MONDAY

READ today's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTED:** The vinedresser (Father) and the Vine (Christ) are present and working in your life that you might bear much fruit (1-3). This is a gardening illustration. Write out why pruning is counter-intuitive. **PRAY:** Pray over your applications.

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY

READ today's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** The vinedresser (Father) and the Vine (Christ) are present and working in your life that you might bear much fruit (1-3). This is a gardening illustration. Write out things in your life that might not be sinful, but they divert you from fully seeing and following Christ. What will you do with these? **PRAY:** Pray over your applications.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

READ today's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** The vinedresser (Father) and the Vine (Christ) are present and working in your life that you might bear much fruit (1-3). Write out things in your life that help you fully see and follow Christ. What will you do with these? In other words what are some ways you can "abide" in Christ more consistently? **PRAY:** Pray over your applications.

SATURDAY

Prepare your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.