

John 15 "The Word Alive in Me, Part 4"
July 28, 2010 Message # MB419



(John 15:16) "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name."

The Bible defines 5 categories of fruit:

- **Godly witness**
- **Godly character**
- **Godly works**
- **Godly giving**
- **Godly praise**

(John 15:1-11) "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

- **Jesus (vine) is the ONLY source of spiritual life**

(1John 5:12) "He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."

(John 15:2-6) He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

1) Do our part to abide

- **Abiding = submitting**
- **Abiding = depending**

(Philippians 4:13) "I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

(Proverbs 3:5-6) "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

- **Abiding = resting**

(John 7:37-39) "On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified."

- **Abiding = obeying**

(John 15:10) "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love."

2) Keep ourselves in the Word and the Word in us

(John 15:7) "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."

(John 15:3) "You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you."

3) Bear increasing amounts of fruit

(John 15:5) "'I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'"

4) Trust God as He prunes us

(John 15:2) "He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful."

(Hebrews 12:5-6) "And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.'"

- **Pruning/cleaning/discipline hurts but never harms**

5) Make God look good

(John 15:8) "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

(Philippians 1:11) "filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God."

(Psalms 19:1) "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NLT) So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

6) Enjoy God, life, and others

(John 15:9) "'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love."

(John 15:11) "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

Colossians 1:16 (MSG) everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him.

Amplified John 15:1-11

¹I AM the True Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser.

²Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit [that stops bearing] He cuts away (trims off, takes away); and He cleanses and repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more and richer and more excellent fruit.

³You are cleansed and pruned already, because of the word which I have given you [the teachings I have discussed with you].

⁴Dwell in Me, and I will dwell in you. [Live in Me, and I will live in you.] Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (being vitally united to) the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me.

⁵I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in him bears much (abundant) fruit. However, apart from Me [cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing.

⁶If a person does not dwell in Me, he is thrown out like a [broken-off] branch, and withers; such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, and they are burned.

⁷If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

⁸When you bear (produce) much fruit, My Father is honored and glorified, and you show and prove yourselves to be true followers of Mine.

⁹I have loved you, [just] as the Father has loved Me; abide in My love [^[a]continue in His love with Me].

¹⁰If you keep My commandments [if you continue to obey My instructions], you will abide in My love and live on in it, just as I have obeyed My Father's commandments and live on in His love.

¹¹I have told you these things, that My joy and delight may be in you, and that your joy and gladness may be of full measure and complete and overflowing

(1John 5:12) "He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation. MSG = The Message.