

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. John 15:16 (NIV)

Appointed You To Go

I understand that you would like to bear fruit for me. Is that true? Yes, it is. **You do know that apart from me you can do nothing?** Yes, I do. But I didn't always understand what you meant by that. **What part of nothing is hard to understand?** **There are things that really look like something now but will ultimately be worth nothing in light of eternity.** That's what I wasn't understanding. **Now you do?** Yes, I have accomplished quite a lot of nothing. Now I want to bear real fruit that will last for all eternity. **Let's talk about this some more. What do you think it means to abide in me?**

Abiding in you describes a close and intimate relationship with you. **How close?** Close enough to talk back and forth with you about anything and everything. **That doesn't sound too difficult.** I think you are kidding me. **Why is that?** Everything in life seems to pull me in every direction away from you. I've spent my whole life running around in circles trying to respond to whatever seemed to shout for my attention. **You do know that I will never shout for your attention.** Yes, I know. **What drew you to me in the first place?** I'd had enough. I was weary and worn out. Life was not working out as I had hoped. In desperation I cried out to you. I asked you to come into my life and you did. **I'll bet you thought that you chose me, didn't you?** Yes, I did. **How about now?** Now I know that it was you who chose me. You were watching and waiting for me to respond to your call. I had to be ready to hear and listen to your voice. The desperation I was feeling made me ready. That's funny how that works, isn't it? **Not really, but I know what you mean.**

Do you think it's possible to be one of my followers and not abide in me and not bear everlasting fruit? Yes, I do. Ever since I've had this new relationship with you as my Savior and Lord, I've let life run me around in circles. I haven't drawn near to you. We haven't had much back and forth conversation together. **You mean prayer, don't you?** Yes, that's what I mean. **What do you think you've missed because of your life of prayerlessness?**

Ouch, I don't like how that sounds. **Neither do I.** My prayerlessness has made it so I couldn't hear your instructions. **What instructions?** Like "Go". **What do you mean by that?** If I'm not listening, how will I ever hear you say "go" there and bear fruit. I'll just sit around or race off in a hundred wrong directions. **Yes, you will.** I know because I have. **But things are much different for you now, aren't they?**

Yes, you have drawn me to you. I hunger to be with you. It is my delight to meet with you in prayer. There is no place I'd rather be. I have tasted of your goodness. In your presence, I have fullness of joy. I am so thankful that you have given me this burning desire for you. **You are now ready to bear abundant fruit for me. Listen carefully for my instructions. I will soon say, "Go" to you. You will then bear fruit for me and be able to ask the Father for whatever you need to do so.**

Father, I have no greater desire than to serve you and to bear fruit for you and your kingdom. Help me to abide in Christ so that I will flourish and be able to bear abundant and lasting fruit for Him. I ask this in His name. Amen

Identity*Fruit That Will Last*

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.

NIV

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit Should Abide*

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

ESV

John 15:16

Identity*Produce Lasting Fruit*

You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.

NLT

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit Should Remain*

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

NKJV

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit That Will Last*

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

NRSV

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit That Won't Spoil*

"You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you.

MSG

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit May Be Lasting*

You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed you [I have planted you], that you might go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit may be lasting [that it may remain, abide], so that whatever you ask the Father in My Name [as presenting all that I AM], He may give it to you.

AMP

John 15:16

Identity*Lovely Fruit Always*

"You didn't choose me! I chose you! I appointed you to go and produce lovely fruit always, so that no matter what you ask for from the Father, using my name, he will give it to you.

TLB

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit Would Remain*

"You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

NASB

John 15:16

Identity*Fruit That Will Last*

You did not choose me; I chose you. And I gave you this work: to go and produce fruit, fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you anything you ask for in my name.

NCV

John 15:16

Fruit That Will Last

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Identity – John 15:16

In Context: *Read John 15*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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. John 15:16

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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. John 15:16

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Father, I have no greater desire than to serve you and to bear fruit for you and your kingdom. Help me to abide in Christ so that I will flourish and be able to bear abundant and lasting fruit for Him. I ask this in His name. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What must you do if you want to bear fruit that will last for eternity?

What does a relationship of abiding with the Lord look like on a daily basis?

How are you listening for the Lord to guide your life so that you can bear fruit for Him?

Why must you be willing “to go” in order to be a fruit bearer for Christ?

Where has the Lord asked you “to go” so that you could bear fruit for Him?

What kind of fruit will spoil and what kind of fruit will last for eternity?

What kind of eternal and lasting fruit has the Lord been able to bear through your life?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Draw near to the Lord and abide in Him so that you will be able to bear lasting and eternal fruit for Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in our heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord has chosen and appointed you to bear lasting and eternal fruit for Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group where the Lord has had you go to bear lasting fruit for Him.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you live and walk in an intimate relationship with Christ so that you are able to go and bear fruit for Him.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, help me to live and walk with you today and everyday so that I am able to bear fruit for your glory.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?
