

*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. John 15:4-5 (NIV)*

## **Nothing**

I don't want to live a fruitless life. I don't want my life to be filled with lots of activity that will amount to absolutely nothing. I want my life to be filled with meaning and purpose. I want my life to have mattered in light of all eternity. When I come before you, I don't want to look back on a life that is filled with regret of what I could have accomplished for you. I want to accomplish every purpose and plan that you had in mind when you created me. I don't want to have missed any opportunity or left anything undone. One day I would like to hear you say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." **Where do you think all these desires of yours have come from?** I think these desires in my heart come from you. **You are right about that. You and I both want the same thing. I want you to bear an abundance of fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name.**

**What must you do if you want to bear an abundance of fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name?** I must remain in a vital and intimate and connected relationship with you. **That's right. What would living in a vital, intimate and connected relationship with me look like?** That kind of life is observable? **Yes, it is.** I'm not sure what you mean. **What has helped you to remain vitally and intimately connected to me?** Meeting you in your word has helped me to remain intimately and vitally connected to you. **What else?** Talking to you in prayer, meeting with you in worship, and serving you in ministry have all helped me to remain intimately and vitally connected to you. **That's right. Has anything or anyone else encouraged you to live in an intimate relationship with me?** Fellow believers have spurred me on and helped me to live in an intimate and connected relationship with you. Receiving encouragement from fellow believers, in a small group, has both challenged and encouraged me to remain vitally connected to you. I have desperately needed encouragement to remain vitally and intimately connected to you. You have encouraged me. You have placed others in my life to encourage me. **Yes, I have. Keep on living in an intimate, vital and connected relationship with me.** Yes, Lord, I will. **Then you will bear fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name.**

*Lord, I have been distant. I have been independent. I have been isolated. I want no more of that kind of life. Help me to remain in a vital, intimate and connected relationship with you. I want to bear an abundance of fruit for your kingdom. Amen*



# Remain In Me – Remain In You

Year \_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_

Rhythms – John 15:4-5

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?)*

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

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. John 15:4-5

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

Lord, I have been distant. I have been independent. I have been isolated. I want no more of that kind of life. Help me to remain in a vital, intimate and connected relationship with you. I want to bear an abundance of fruit for your kingdom. Amen

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

**How has meeting with the Lord in His word helped you to remain vitally connected to Him?**

How has drawing near to the Lord in prayer helped you to remain vitally connected to Him?

How has consistently gathering with fellow believers to worship the Lord helped you to remain vitally connected to Him?

How has being grounded in a small group with fellow believers helped you to remain vitally connected to Him?

How has doing the ministry that the Lord has given you to do helped you to remain vitally connected to Him?

**What fruit has your life born as you have remained in a vital relationship with Jesus Christ?**

**When have you experienced fruitlessness as a result of not remaining vitally connected to Jesus Christ?**

**Living It Out:**

*(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Make it the rhythm of your life to remain in vital and intimate and connected relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Seeing It Happen:**

*(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that your life will bear an abundance of fruit as you remain in a vital relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Get Ready To Share:**

*(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how you are remaining in an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

**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?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

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

*May you remain in a vital and connected and intimate relationship with the Lord so you can bear fruit for Him.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

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

*Lord, I will remain in a vital and connected and intimate relationship with you so I can bear fruit for you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I bear fruit for you as I remain in a vital, connected and intimate relationship with you?*

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