

*"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 15:5 (NIV)*

Bearing Fruit

I know that you want to bear an abundance of fruit for my kingdom and my glory. How do you know that? **I have heard you pray that prayer many times. That was you wasn't it?** You're kidding me. **What do you think?** Yes, you are kidding me. It was me. That has been a frequent prayer of mine. **Yes, I know. I hear all your prayers.**

Let's talk about fruit bearing. I will start by asking you some questions. Go right ahead. **When have you worked really hard and seen absolutely no fruit from your labor?** I'm not sure. **Go ahead, make a guess.** Sometimes I have dreamed up a project all by myself. I didn't really consult with you about it. The project just seemed like a good idea to me. But, after a lot of hard work I knew that it was not bearing fruit. Your hand was not on it. It was just a lot of self-effort on my part. It was my good idea. It was not your good idea. It was not what you were calling me to do for you. **Let's take a step back for a minute. I have another question for you.** What is it?

What is fruit? That's a good question. **It's important to know.** Yes, it is. The fruit that I want to bear is fruit that will last for all eternity. There is a lot of activity in life that might look like it is accomplishing something important. If that activity doesn't stand the test of time and last forever it isn't the fruit that you are calling me to bear for you. **No, it is not. Apart from me you will never be able to bear this kind of fruit. Do you know why we took a step back to consider this question?** My good ideas will never be able to bear fruit for you. **No, they will not. You must listen to me. You must hear my call. You must go where I guide you to do what I ask of you. Then and only then will you be able to bear fruit that will glorify me. This kind of fruit will last for all eternity.**

Let me clarify something for you. What's that? **The amount of fruit you will bear for me will correspond to how you abide in your relationship with me. Do you want to abide in me?** Yes, I do. **Will you spend time with me?** Yes, I will. **Will you spend time meeting with me in my word?** Yes, I will. **Will you listen to all that I have to say to you?** Yes, I will. **Will spend time talking with and listening to me in prayer?** Yes, I will. **Will you bow yourself down to worship me?** Yes, to all your questions. My life is fully devoted to loving, following and serving you. **Yes, I can see that it is.**

As you abide in me and my word abides in you I want to know what I will be doing. What's that? **My word will be purifying and cleansing your life. My word will work in you, with you and for you. My word will prune from your life what is not pleasing me to me. As you remain in me and I prune your life you will be able to bear an abundance of fruit for my kingdom and my glory. Then people that look at you will see me. Then they will know that you are one of my disciples. Is that what you want?** Yes Lord, I want that more than anything in all of life. **Then that is what you will have.**

*Lord, I will remain in you. Apart from you I can do nothing. Use your word to change my heart, transform my mind, and purify my life.
Help me to live a life that bears an abundance of fruit for your glory. Help me to show that I truly am one of your disciples. Amen*

Promises *Bear Much Fruit*
"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.
NIV John 15:5

Promises *Bears Much Fruit*
I 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.
ESV John 15:5

Promises *Produce Much Fruit*
"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.
NLT John 15:5

Promises *Bears Much Fruit*
I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.
NKJV John 15:5

Promises *Bear Much Fruit*
I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.
NRSV John 15:5

Promises *Harvest Is Sure To Be Abundant*
"I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing.
MSG John 15:5

Promises *Bears Much Fruit*
I 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.
AMP John 15:5

Promises *Produce A Large Crop Of Fruit*
"Yes, I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in me and I in him shall produce a large crop of fruit. For apart from me you can't do a thing.
TLB John 15:5

Promises *Bears Much Fruit*
"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.
NASB John 15:5

Promises *Produce Much Fruit*
"I am the vine, and you are the branches. If any remain in me and I remain in them, they produce much fruit. But without me they can do nothing.
NCV John 15:5

Bear Much Fruit

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – John 15:5

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?)***

"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 15:5 (NIV)

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

"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 15:5 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I will remain in you. Apart from you I can do nothing. Use your word to change my heart, transform my mind, and purify my life. Help me to live a life that bears an abundance of fruit for your glory. Help me to show that I truly am one of your disciples. Amen

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

How is meeting with Jesus Christ in His word, in worship and in prayer helping you to remain in Him?

How has your Heavenly Father been pruning your life so you can bear an abundance of fruit for Him?

How is God using His word to change your heart, transform your mind and cleanse and purify your life?

When are you regularly meeting with God in His word so He can speak into your life and prune you with His word?

Why will you never be able to bear lasting and eternal fruit apart from remaining in Christ?

How has remaining in Christ and His word allowed you to pray prayers that God will hear and answer?

How is the fruit your life is bearing giving glory to God and showing that you truly are one of His disciples?

Living It Out:

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

Remain in Jesus Christ so you will be able to bear fruit for God's glory, showing yourself to be one of His disciples.

Seeing It Happen:

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

Have faith that God will bear an abundance of fruit through your life as you remain in Christ.

Get Ready To Share:

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

Share with another person or your small group how God has been bearing fruit through your life for His glory.

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 remain in Jesus Christ so that you can bear an abundance of fruit for Him.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will remain in you so that I can bear an abundance of fruit for you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how do you want to bear fruit in and through my life today?
