

# RESURRECTION FRUIT

John 15:1-8

**INTRODUCTION:** Today, Jesus compares our relationship with Him to that of a grape vine and its branches. He then challenges us to re-examine what kind of branches we are.

*John 15:5 "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."*

## I. THE \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH

*v. 2 "Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away..."*

*v.6 "If 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."*

## II. THE \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH

*v.2 "...every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit."*

## III. THE \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH

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

## IV. THE \_\_\_\_\_BRANCH

*v. 5 "...Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit..."*

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

**Digging Deeper**  
**Sermon Based Bible Study**  
**May 5 & 6, 2012**  
**John 15:1-8 (Resurrection Fruit)**

**I. OPEN**

- A. This week, in our Gospel lesson, Jesus uses agricultural language. So, Just for kicks... spiritually speaking, which of these plants best describes you right now:
  - 1. A Weeping Willow
  - 2. A Towering Oak
  - 3. A Tumble Weed
  - 4. A Crab-Apple
- B. This coming week is a good time to plant annual garden plants. Share your experience with growing things. What is most enjoyable? Most frustrating?

**II. DIG**

- A. Jesus compares his people to branches of a grapevine. This was a familiar concept to the people of our Lord's day. See what God did for his Old Testament people in vineyard terms in Isaiah 5:1-2.
- B. According to Jesus in John 15:5, what is the key to fruit production?
- C. (See v. 2.) Have you ever felt like you were "pruned?" Why does God allow such things to happen to believers? See also the promise of 1 Cor. 10:13.
- D. According to v. 8, what is the proof of being Christ's disciples?
- E. Go to Galatians 5:22,23 for a list of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Which "fruit" are critical for you right now?

- F. The Greek word for “Abide” is used by Jesus eight times in this short section of scripture. What is the key to abiding (being connected with) in Christ?

### III. REFLECT

- A. Times of pruning are tough! Even though we have the promise of v.2 that in the end, we will be more fruitful. What has helped you get through difficult times of pruning in your life?
- B. Which of the following has helped you “abide” in Jesus through the years?
1. Faithful Worship
  2. Bible Studies
  3. Personal Times of Prayer and Devotion
  4. Conversation with Christian Friends
  5. Others
- C. Just for kicks, as a branch on Christ’s vine, how would you describe the fruit of your life right now:
1. A-1, Top Shelf
  2. Juicy
  3. Green
  4. Wormy
  5. Been in the refrigerator for a month now
- D. By nature, fruit always has reproductive qualities. Have the seeds of your fruit grown in faith been planted recently in the lives of others?