

May 25, 2025 Worship Service Pastor Chris Regas WeAreLifeBridge.com

JESUS: Hear His Glory and Grace

Lesson Five • John 15:1-17
The Fruit Bearing Life

God the Vinedresser Is Looking at Our Lives and Asking:

Where's the FRUIT? (vv. 1, 5)

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser." (v. 1)
"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." (v. 5)

Where Does John 15-17 Take Place?

As Jesus and His 11 disciples walked *from the Upper Room* to the *Garden of Gethsemane* and perhaps paused before the *Temple*. (14:31; 18:1)

John 15: Remain Faithful and Fruitful in Three Relationships

With Christ: Abide in the True Vine. (1-11)
With Other Disciples: Love one another. (12-1.
With the World: Witness to a hostile world. (18-27)

"My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples." (v. 8)

"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..." (v. 16)

Trinitarian Facts About the Fruit Bearing Life

1. God the Father Is **SOVEREIGN** Over Fruit Bearing.

- ➤ God the Father is in **CHARGE** of His vineyard. (v. 1; Isaiah 5:1-7)
- ➤ God the Father is a **CARING** vinedresser. (vv. 2-3, 6)
 - 1. He **CUTS OFF** the barren branches to burn them.

Judas - John 13:10-11, 30

2. He **CLEANSES** the fruitful branches to bear more fruit.

The Vinedresser's sovereignty over the fruit bearing life is absolute but it is also gracious, tender and caring!

2. God the Son Is the SOURCE for Fruit Bearing.

- > Jesus is the **SOVEREIGN** "I AM" God of the Old Testament. (v. 1)
- Jesus <u>SUCCEEDS</u> where Adam failed in God's Garden and Israel failed as God's Vineyard.
- > Jesus is our **SUBSTITUTE** who gave His life to be our life-giving Savior. (Psalm 80:14-19; Genesis 49:10-11; Jn 15 12-13)

3. God the Spirit Is the **SAP** in Fruit Bearing.

Bear *fruit* (v. 2) – Bear *more fruit* (v. 2) – Bear *much fruit* (v. 5) Bear *fruit that remains* (v. 16)!

Fruit is Christlike conversion, character, conversation, conduct, community, and converts!

The Spirit Fills Us for Abiding

- ➤ Abide **FAITHFULLY** in Christ. (vv. 4-5)
- Abide **PERSEVERINGLY** in pruning. (vv. 2-3; Hebrews 12:6-11)
- ➤ Abide **OBEDIENTLY** in the Word. (vv. 3, 7-8)
- Abide RELATIONALLY in prayer. (vv. 7, 16)
- Abide **LOVINGLY** with other believers. (vv. 9-10, 12-15, 17)
- Abide JOYFULLY on His mission. (vv. 11, 16)

"These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

Abide Together in the True Vine as Spirit-Filled Branches to Go Bear Much Fruit for God's Glory, Our Good, and the Joy of All Peoples!

Be faithful to abide in the Son by the Spirit for the glory of the Father and you will enjoy a fruit bearing life even in times of pruning.