



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Produce Lasting Fruit

Read John 15:6-12 together. Have one person read a verse and then another person read the next, and so on.

⁶ Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. ⁷ But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! ⁸ When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father. ⁹ “I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in His love. ¹¹ I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! ¹² This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you.

1. In verse 7, John says that “**ANYTHING we ask will be granted to us**”. What are your initial thoughts about this phrase?

What are the criteria for answered prayer given in this verse?

In the sermon, we were reminded that communication with God happens through reading His Word and time in prayer. Share your own journey of Bible study and prayer as you communicate with God. What is God saying to you about this area of spiritual discipline in your life?

2. Take a few moments to consider the truth in verses 8 & 9 about The Father’s love and how “*true disciples*,” bring glory to Him.

Read those 2 verses again. STOP, have several members of your group pray that each person will glorify the Father through producing fruit and living as His *true disciples*.

3. Verse 10 says that our obedience is a response to The Father's love for us! Obedience does not earn His love. It is evidence of love. Jesus isn't saying, "If you want me to love you, you have to obey." He is saying, "If you love me, you demonstrate it through obedience." Share ways in which you have experienced or are currently experiencing God's love in your life?

Sincerely evaluate your obedient response to His love. What is He challenging you to do in response to this truth?

4. God wants every believer to be FULL of Joy! (Verse 11) Joy and obedience are not mutually exclusive. They are connected - joy comes through obedience and regular obedience builds our sense of joy. In Psalm 34, David writes that we will face trouble, however, God delivers. Share with your group about a time that you saw this truth play out in your life.

How are you doing with truly having joy in the hard-times of life? Share practical ways that you have learned to trust God for deliverance during the hard-times.

Would you say that your joy *overflows*? Why or why not?

5. Finally, the challenge comes to "**love one another**," (verse 12). We are to love others as He has loved us. Do you love this way?

To what extent would you say that you *sacrifice to love* as Jesus loves?

What are some of the ways that someone has loved you *sacrificially*?

What needs to change in your life based on this passage of Scripture?