

How to Live a Fruitful Life (John 15:1-17)

Pastor Deric

- (1) "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. (2) Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- (3) Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. (4) Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. (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.
- (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.
- (7) If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (8) By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.
- (9) As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. (10) If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- (11) These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.
- (12) "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. (13) Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (14) You are my friends if you do what I command you. (15) No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.
- (16) You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.
- (17) These things I command you, so that you will love one another. [John 15:1-17 ESV]

Practical Application

1. Jesus teaches us how to live a truly fruitful life.
2. At the end of your days on earth do you want your life to count?
3. Are you living a meaningful life or an insignificant life?
4. Are you living a productive life or a wasteful life?
5. Do you have eternal life or are you on your way to eternal death?
6. Jesus can teach you how to live life to the fullest.
7. Jesus teaches us how to have life with God forever.
8. In a world filled with "false vines," Jesus alone is the true vine.
9. Personal, relational, intimate connection with Jesus is the key to living a truly fruitful life.
10. God the Father is the divine gardener who is cultivating people to display His character and His glory.
11. God lifts up the fruitless branches (Christians) that are connected to Christ but struggling.
12. God prunes fruitful branches (Christians) that they may become even more fruitful.
13. Jesus makes us clean through His words and His works.

14. A fruitful life comes from abiding/remaining in Christ.
15. A fruitful life comes from Christ living His life through you.
16. You cannot bear true fruit apart from Christ.
17. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches that can live extremely fruitful lives by being connected to Him.
18. Apart from Jesus Christ you can do nothing of real and lasting significance.
19. Apart from Jesus branches dry up and are thrown into the lake of fire.
20. Abiding in Christ and having His words abiding in you will radically transform your prayer life.
21. A fruitful prayer life comes from abiding in Christ and His word.
22. God is glorified by fruitful followers of Christ.
23. Fruitful Christians prove they are true disciples.
24. God the Father loves God the Son. Jesus loves you. Rest in Jesus' love today and everyday.
25. Loving God leads to obeying God. Obeying God leads to abiding in His love. Jesus is our perfect example and model of love and obedience.
26. Abiding in God's love leads to fullness of joy.
27. Fruitful Christians love others the way Jesus loves them.
28. Fruitful Christians lovingly lay down their lives for other Christians.
29. Christians are more than just servants of Christ, they are friends of Christ because they know what He is doing.
30. Jesus loves you, chose you, appointed you, and will bless you both now and forever with a truly fruitful life.

Announcements

1. Wednesday Nights: Small group for adults and Awana for children at 6:30. The Awana pizza party is on May 3rd and the Awana award night will be on May 10th. Student Life Kids Camp at Shocco Springs will be on July 24-27. Kids Soccer Camp (June 12-14 from 6-8pm). Kids Art Camp (July 17-20 from 6-8pm). Taco'bout Prayer Family event with Teaching, Dinner, Fellowship, and a Movie (June 21st at 6). For more information see Tiffany Vick (Children's Minister).
2. We will be holding a baby and child dedication on May 14th, 2023 at the beginning of service (Mother's Day). If you would like to participate in dedicating your child to the Lord let us know.
3. New Small Group: On Tuesday, May 2 a new Weight Watchers small group will begin meeting on campus every other week from 5:30-7. If you would like to improve your overall health and wellness check this group out. For more information contact Anna Wade (205) 920-8312 or Telura Sapp (251) 209-0322.
4. We will have our 5th Sunday Fellowship Meal right after worship today from 11:45-1:00.
5. Hope Mountain Youth: Our youth group meets on Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 and Sunday mornings from 9-10:15. For more information see David Barrero (Youth Minister).
6. Fall Pumpkin Patch: This Fall (2023). More details to come. Talk with Paul Hayes for more information.
7. All of Pastor Deric's sermons are uploaded to the Hope Mountain website: <https://hopemountain.church/resources/sermons/>