

“LESSONS FROM THE VINEYARD”

“BEARING FRUIT FOR AN ABUNDANT HARVEST”

PART 2:

“BEARING FRUIT WHILE ABIDING IN CHRIST”

“Trusting the Gardener, Even When It Hurts”

(John 15:1-10)

INTRODUCTION:

*“I am the true vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser.
...I am the vine, you are the branches.”*

—John 15:1, 5a

OVERVIEW AND REVIEW

THE FOCUS ON RELATIONSHIPS:

1. *The Relationship of the Vine to the Branches. (v. 1-10)*
2. *The Relationship of the Branches to One Another. (v. 11-17)*
3. *The Relationship of the Vine & the Branches to the World. (v. 18-27)*

THE FOCUS ON FRUIT-BEARING:

1. *Fruit Bearing is the Purpose of Our Relationship with Christ (v. 16)*
2. *Fruit Bearing is the Proof of Our Discipleship to Christ (v. 8)*
3. *Fruit Bearing is the Product of Our Fellowship with Christ (v. 3-7)*

THE KEY: ABIDING

1A. IF I DESIRE TO BE WHAT HE WANTS ME TO BE, A FRUITFUL BRANCH (DISCIPLE), THEN I NEED _____:

1B. There is no _____, and therefore no _____, outside of the _____.

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. 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.”

—John 15:4-5

2B. The Gardener _____.

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.”

—John 15:1-3

2A. IF I DESIRE TO BE WHAT HE WANTS ME TO BE, A FRUITFUL BRANCH (DISCIPLE), THEN I NEED _____ :

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.”

- You cannot _____ fruitfulness.

“The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.”

—James 5:7b

- But you can _____ fruitfulness.

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ... abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love...”

—John 15:7-10

3A. IF I DESIRE TO BE WHAT HE WANTS ME TO BE, A FRUITFUL BRANCH (DISCIPLE), THEN I NEED _____ :

“...My Father is the vinedresser. ...every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.”

—John 15:1-3

4A. IF I DESIRE TO BE WHAT HE WANTS ME TO BE, A FRUITFUL BRANCH (DISCIPLE), THEN I NEED _____ :

“Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. ...just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.”

- When you face times of pruning or pain, persevere. When you are tempted to _____, _____! When you are tempted to _____, _____.

“...knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

—James 1:3, 4

CONCLUSION:

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

—John 15:11