



SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014

Rev. Larry D. Green, Pastor

Grow. Give. Go.

“LESSONS FROM THE VINEYARD”

“BEARING FRUIT FOR AN ABUNDANT HARVEST”

PART 3:

“BEARING FRUIT WHILE ABIDING IN COMMUNITY”

“*Connected and Committed to One Another*”

(John 15:12-17)

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

BUT WE ARE NOT ONLY TO ABIDE IN CHRIST, BUT ALSO IN HIS COMMUNITY.

“These things I command you, so that you will love one another...”

—John 15:17

**1A. _____ IN CHRIST AND COMMUNITY: EMBRACING HIS _____
TO TRULY _____ (15:12-15)**

“This is My commandment, that you love one another...”

1B. The _____ of Love _____: (v. 12b)

“...love one another, just as I have loved you.”

2B. The _____ of Love _____: (v. 13)

“Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”

3B. The _____ of Love _____: (v. 14-15)

“You are My friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.”

- If we are solely servants or slaves, then our relationship is solely one of _____ and _____. But because we are friends, then our relationship is one of _____ and _____.

2A. _____ IN CHRIST AND COMMUNITY: EMBRACING HIS _____ TO TRULY _____ (15:16, 17)

“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, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you. This I command you, that you love one another.”

- I _____ you... (initiative)
for a _____... (mission)
with _____ impact... (significance)
through divine _____. (privilege)
- But it can only be fully realized through _____.

CONCLUSION:

A healthy church is a place... ..where people genuinely love one another and participate with one another in authentic community, doing life together as a family.

- We are a _____ community.

A healthy church is a place... .. where divine grace, spiritual gifts and material goods are generously shared for the building up of one another through sacrificial love.

- We are a _____ community.