

SERIES:

SUBJECT: Chosen To Be Fruitful

READING: **Joh 15:16** *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, **that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain:** that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*

Introduction:

The apostle John was called the apostle that Jesus loved and it is mentioned in **Joh 19:26** *When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, **Woman, behold thy son!***

He is first mentioned in **Joh 13:23** *Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.* It was in conjunction with Jesus' revelation that it would be Judas Iscariot that would betray him!

As one of Jesus' closest followers John seems to have had insight that others may have lacked! This may be why Jesus chose John to be the one who revealed the importance of His followers being fruitful!

Jesus used John to reveal the end result of His coming; **Joh 10:10** *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.***

**The abundant life is also a fruitful life; **Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.****  
**Joh 15:16**

**John C. Maxwell in his book “Be All You Can Be” writes “When God speaks in His Word of a fruitful life, He means active, positive attitudes.”**

**Galatians 5:22-23, is the premier passage on fruitful living. *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, (23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”***

You will note that **the fruit** Jesus mentions here is singular in nature but let me point out to you that it is also **“POSITIVE”** in nature as well!

People who live life focusing on the negative aspects of living are never fruitful! **Negative thinking ignores positive things that happen.**

**The negative of love is hatred; of Joy it’s unhappiness; peace’s opposite turmoil; faith is doubt.**

**When it comes to Fruitfulness the antithesis is barren! Peter’s exposition on the positive work of the spirit in our lives builds us up reveals; 2Pe 1:5-9**  
*And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; (6) And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; (7) And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. (8) **For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (9) **But he that lacketh these things is blind,** and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.*

Fruitfulness as a Christian is exhibiting positive and active attitudes on a daily basis in our lives. **Maxwell writes;** When that happens, we begin to sense real joy and to see

positive things happen in our lives. When we put these attitudes together, five "PRs" must appear.

**1. First of all, there are positive results.**

- a. When you begin to inject attitude of *love, joy, peace*, into your relationships, you're going to see constructive results.
- b. You're going to enjoy positive fruitful relationships with others.

**2. People will begin to exhibit positive reactions,**

- a. Demonstrating *longsuffering, gentleness, and faith, into relationships in place of short temperedness and harsh words* you discover a kinder gentler person will respond!
- b. Push back against *longsuffering, gentleness* is reduced if not totally eliminated!
- c. When you believe in others they will believe in you!

**3. You'll receive positive reinforcement.**

- a. Life is like a mirror; what you show is what you see; what you put in is what you get out.
- b. When you reflect *Meekness, and temperance (selfcontrol) what is reflected back the same!*
- c. You encourage others, you'll find that they will encourage you. Attitudes are contagious.

**4. And Last, you'll have positive rejoicing.**

- a. **That's what Jesus says in Joh 15:11** These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and *that* your joy might be full.
- b. People often say they're not happy; they say they're unfulfilled. They talk about not having joy in their lives.
- c. **Seeking for joy has become their purpose in life**—but joy (or happiness or fulfillment) comes to us not when we seek it, but when we put **the right principles into practice in our lives.**
- d. **Joy is a by-product of doing what is right.**
  1. It is when we live right that we begin to love the right principles.
  2. We want to fall in love with what is right and then have it happen to us.
  3. That's backward—it's when we learn what's right and live according to it that we begin to want to be right;
  4. **You have probably seen the bumper sticker that asks, "Are we having fun yet?"**
    - a. **The question should be "Are we doing right yet?"**
    - b. **If we're doing right, we'll be having fun.**

1. **How do we begin being fruitful? We begin by understanding the principles of bearing fruit:**

Joh 15:1-5 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. (2) Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. (3) Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. (4) Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. (5) I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

**a. There are three principle parts in verse 1. The Vine (Jesus) and the Husbandman (God) and three the Branch (you and me)**

- i. The vine doesn't bear fruit!**
- ii. And neither does the Husbandman!**
- iii. The branch bears the fruit!**

**b. The relationship of the these three is what makes it work;**

- i. Branches come in two varieties bearing and non bearing.**
- ii. Non-bearing are eliminated.**
- iii. Bearing are the fruit producers Bearing are "Purged" so more fruit can come!**

**c. The word is the life of the branch Joh 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.**

- i. The Branch abided in the vine and the life of the vine empowers the branch.**

- ii. **As I said to start the branch cannot bear fruit unless it is attached to the vine!**
- iii. **That relationship is the basis of fruit bearing.**
- iv. **So to bear fruit we must first abide in Christ and allow God to purge us as needed.**

**Joh 15:5** I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

**2. Abiding in Christ and Christ's word abiding in Us gives us what we need to bear fruit!**

**Joh 15:7** If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

**Jump down now to Joh 15:16** Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

- 3. To be fruitful we Go**
- 4. We bear fruit**
- 5. We must bear fruit the right way**
- 6. We must remember the mighty resource we have:** that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.