

Lesson 16 Jesus - The True Vine (John 15:1-27)

BEARING FRUIT

A. Finding the fruit John 15:1-2

1. What does being **fruitful** mean?
2. How are we **fruitful**?
 - a. It is not through our own **abilities**.
 - b. It is **something** that God **does**.

B. Pruning the fruit John 15:2-3

“Suppose you eliminated suffering, what a dreadful place the world would be. The world would be the most ghastly place because everything that corrects the tendency of...man, to feel over-important and over-pleased with himself would disappear. He’s bad enough now, but he would be absolutely intolerable if he never suffered.”

Malcolm Muggeridge

1. How **does** God do that?
2. What is **pruning**?
 - a. Pain to **carve** away sin.
 - b. Pain to cause us to **bear** more **fruit**
3. What is our **response**?
4. What is the “Gardener’s” **response**?
 - a. He is **close** by.
 - b. He knows that **fruit production** takes time.

C. Abiding for fruit John 15:4-5

“Abide in Christ, that’s life abundant, apart from Him you’ll surely fall, for life in Christ is in abiding. Now hear the blessed

Savior call. Just read His Word, and claim its promise, and breathe His holy Name in prayer. Abide in Him, and He will teach you and give you joy beyond compare.”

Betty Jean (Billingsley) Carswell

1. What does **abiding** mean?
 - a. It is **freedom**.
 - b. It is **absorbing** Jesus.
 - c. It is **confidence** in Him.

D. Enjoying the fruit John 15:6-11

“The joy of Jesus in us is the gigantic secret of the Christian.”

G. K. Chesterton

1. We have an **empowered** prayer life.
2. The Father is **glorified**.
3. **Love** will fill our life.

4. We will have full **joy**.

FRUITFUL RELATIONSHIPS

A. Loving the branches John 15:12-16

1. The quality of **sacrifice**
2. The quality of **mutuality** of heart
3. The quality of **promotion**

B. Fruitful branches in a hostile world John 15:18-27

1. The **warning**.
2. The **solution**.

“As we draw upon Christ, realizing that apart from Him we can do nothing, we will love the branches. When our relationship with God is what it ought to be, when we are walking, resting, and relying on Him, it is remarkable how loving we can be!”

Kent Hughes