

THE SEVEN DIRECTIVES OF PURPOSE

BEARING FRUIT

JOHN 15:1-17



I. BEARING FRUIT

John 15: 1-17

This entire chapter deals with our being called out of the world to bear a life of fruitfulness for the kingdom of God.

- ▣ Jesus is the vine, our life support.
- ▣ We are the branches connected to him.



BEARING FRUIT

- ▣ Branches can produce nothing by themselves.
- ▣ They must be connected to a source.
- ▣ The closer to the source, the stronger the branch.



BEARING FRUIT

- ▣ There are three aspects of fruit bearing:
 1. Spiritual development.
 - Gal. 5:22-25.
 2. Character building. A tree can be identified by its fruit.
 - Matt . 7:20
 3. Gathering of fruit.
 - John 15:16.



BEARING FRUIT

GAL. 5:22–25

- ▣ Our spiritual development starts with receiving the fruit of the Holy Spirit.
 - Love – 1 Cor. 13:4-8
 - Joy – Isa. 61:7,10
 - Peace – Eph. 2:14
 - Longsuffering – Col. 3:12



BEARING FRUIT

- Gentleness – 1Tim. 6:11
- Goodness – Col. 3:12
- Faith – Heb. 10:38
- Meekness – Matt. 5:5
- Temperance – 1 Pet. 1:13



BEARING FRUIT

- ▣ There must be a relationship between you and the vine. Fruit grows through relationship.
- ▣ To become his disciple you must stay connected.
- ▣ To feel God 's love as Christ did, you have to do what Christ did: "Keep the Father 's commandments."



BEARING FRUIT

- ▣ Loving one another produces a willingness to lay down our life for one another.
- ▣ It produce forgiveness, kindness and patience, because we are crucifying our flesh with its affection and lust, so that we can walk in the spirit.



II. BEARING FRUIT TO DEVELOP CHARACTER

- ▣ We identify a tree by the fruit it bears and we identify people by their actions.
- ▣ Our action tells us what source we are connected to.
- ▣ Matt 7: 16-20, Jesus is speaking of false prophets. He said that you will know them by their fruit.
- ▣ Don't just listen to a man's words, but look at how he lives and how he is connected to his source.
- ▣ Character has a lot to do with what people are connected to.



BEARING FRUIT TO DEVELOP CHARACTER

- ▣ Every opportunity we have to reflect Christ, we should.
- ▣ The Indian says we should not speak with forked tongue, out of both sides of our mouth. Our actions can speak louder than our words.
- ▣ Producing good character is not always easy, because the burden to do right is always upon us.



III. WE ARE TO BEAR FRUIT THAT IT MIGHT REMAIN

- ▣ John 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”*
 - Jesus said to his disciples, “You have not chosen me.” You did not elect me to be your teacher.
 - I called you to be my disciples: witnesses and depositories of truth.
 - It was customary among the Jews for every person to choose his own teacher.
 - But I chose you.



WE ARE TO BEAR FRUIT THAT IT MIGHT REMAIN

- ▣ But I chose you and ordained you – rather I appointed you and put you in the vine.
- ▣ They were set up to win souls and stay connected to the vine so their fruit would remain.
- ▣ Jesus said without me, You can do nothing!



BEARING FRUIT

- ▣ God's choice of us is not based on our being good or bad but according to his purpose.
 - He gives us an example in Rom. 9:11-16.

- ▣ Again, God's choice is always according to his will. We were chosen before the foundation of the world. His purpose for us is to bear fruit.
 - Eph 1:4-5



THE SEVEN DIRECTIVES OF PURPOSE

BEARING FRUIT

JOHN 15:1-17

