

A photograph of a vineyard with young grapevines. The vines are supported by tall, light-colored wooden stakes. The ground is covered with green grass and some white protective material around the base of the plants. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds.

Fruit Bearers

Matthew 7:15-20

John 15:1-17

Jesus says in Matt 7:15-20 (NIV)

15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. **16 By their fruit you will recognize them.** Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17 Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.**

Jesus says in Matt 7:15-20 (NIV)

18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

John 15:1-17

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. **3** You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

John 15:1-17

4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. **5** "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:1-17

6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. **7** If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. **8** This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

John 15:1-17

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. **17** This is my command: Love each other.

- Jesus is the true vine, the life source
verse 1
- The Life Source produces the fruit
verse 5-8

How does He produce fruit in us?

He places us in Relationships with other believers.

He Instructs us in His Word.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher

God Renews our minds

Hebrews 3:12 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. (NIV)

- Don't Confuse Quality and Quantity

- What is it that restricts the production of fruit? Self

- Pruning is Painful
- Pruning is Productive
- Pruning results in Fruitfulness

Hebrews 12:7, 11 (NIV)

7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? . . . **11** No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

John 15:5, 7-8 (NIV)

5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. **8** This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Romans 7:4-6 (NIV)

4 So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might **bear fruit** to God. **5** For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, all the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death

Romans 7:4-6 (NIV)

6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

Ephesians 2:10

**For we are God's
workmanship, created in
Christ Jesus to do good
works, which God prepared
in advance for us to do.**

Confession

**I believe that Jesus is
the Christ, the Son of
the living God.**

**I trust Him as my
Lord and Savior.**

