

Fruitful Living: Abiding

John 15:1-17, page 876

- I. ABIDING PRODUCES FRUIT (JOHN 15:1-4).
 - A. Those with no fruit, He lifts up to produce some fruit (2a).
 - B. Those with some fruit, He prunes to produce more fruit (2b-3).
 - C. The only way to produce fruit is to live connected and dependent upon the vine. Disconnected branches don't produce good fruit (4).

- II. DEPENDENT VS INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN LIVING (JOHN 15: 5-8).
 - A. Consistent dependency causes more fruit to blossom and results in a harvest of much fruit (5).
 - B. Independent living produces nothing of value (6, I Cor. 3:10-15).
 - C. Regular/continual dependence and connection to Jesus allows believers to have the heart of God (7-8, Psalm 37:4).
 - D. The Father is most glorified in the dependent fruitful Christian life (8).

- III. THE KEY TO ABIDING (JOHN 15: 9-17).
 - A. Keep the love of God in constant view (9).
 - B. To obey God is to abide in His love (10).
 - C. Abiding in Christ's love produces fruit of God's love, joy and more in our lives (11, Galatians 5:22-23).
 - D. If we are abiding in His love, we will love as Jesus loves (12-17).
 - Jesus' love is selfless and sacrificial.
 - Jesus' love is relational.
 - Jesus' love took the initiative.

THE KEY TO CHRISTIAN LIVING IS NOT TRYING HARDER BUT STAYING CONNECTED TO AND FULLY DEPENDENT UPON THE VINE.