

Remain in Christ

KO: What do you want to be true of you when you graduate college? 5 years from now? 10 years from now? 50 years from now? How do you think this will happen for you?

What you're really saying is that you want your life to be fruitful – that you want to bear fruit with your life. We're going to look at a passage today that talks about how to be fruitful.

Read John 15:1-8 to yourselves.

Read v. 1 out loud

Q: Who is the vine? Who is the gardener? Who are the branches (v. 5)?

A: (Jesus is the vine, God is the gardener, we are the branches)

Read v. 2 out loud

Q: What 2 things does God do to make the branches more fruitful?

A: 1. He cuts off the branches that don't bear fruit and 2. He prunes the ones that do bear fruit so they will be even more fruitful.

Q: Do you know what it means to prune something?

A: It means to clip or weed out.

Q: What are some things you think God is wanting to weed out of your life?

Q: What are some things you think God is wanting to prune in your life?

Read v. 3 out loud

Explain: For someone who has trusted in Christ, he/she is clean because Jesus has paid for all of their sins.

Read v. 4 out loud

Q: How does does verse 4 say we bear fruit?

A: To remain in the vine

What do you think it means to remain in the vine – to remain in Jesus?

A: (It means to stay, abide, dwell, be present – to stay connected)

Q: How do you think someone "remains in the vine?"

A: By consistently being present with Christ – we do that through reading the Bible and praying.

Read v. 5 out loud

Q: What will happen if someone remains in Christ? What if someone does not remain in Christ?

A: Bear fruit vs. "apart from me you can do nothing"

Read verses 6-8 out loud

Q: In verse 8, what glorifies the Father?

A: Bearing fruit

The way that God has given us to remain in Christ is the Bible and prayer. The way that you can bear fruit is by beginning to build the habit of consistently reading and applying the Bible to your life and praying to God. The #1 spiritual habit you can form is to consistently read the Bible and pray.