

WHAT THE BRANCH LOOKS LIKE

The Means of Fruitfulness - John 15:1-17

PRINCIPLE: You can bear fruit for God by meeting the three conditions for fruitfulness.

I. You Have to Be C _____
_____ vv.4-9

1. The P _____
_____ of abiding

2. The P _____
_____ of abiding

3. The P _____
_____ of abiding

II. You Have to Be C _____
_____ vv.2-3

1. first kind of cleansing - _____

2. second kind of cleansing - _____

III. You Have to Be C _____
_____ vv.10-17

1. Recognized by obedience -

2. Results in _____ -

3. Rooted in relationship -

Questions for personal reflection & small group study:

RESPONSE (Be "doers" of the Word and not hearers only – James 1:22):

Scripture text: **John 15:1-17**

1. In our text the Greek word '*meno*' appears at least 11x [120x in the New Testament]; it can be translated by a number of English words because it is so rich, meaningful. Is there a particular translation that resonates most with you? What is it and why?

2. What tends to make 'abiding' in Christ so challenging?

3. What solutions in the text are offered for the problems you've just listed?

4. What can we do in our lives to help us focus on the relationship more than the 'results,' the friendship more than the 'fruit'?

5. What do you sense is the 'Gardener's' perspective on our fruit bearing?

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***From TRUTH through TRACTION to TRANSFORMATION:***

What did God say to you today?

What will you do about it?

With whom will you share this...and when?