

## **Bearing Fruit > John 15:1-17**

**15:1-6** Following Jesus on mission first means that we are to remain in Christ. Those who remain in Christ shall be pruned – not because it is always pleasant but because it is what is best for God’s people and His glory. Those who refuse to remain in Christ shall be cut off.

**15:7-11** Remaining in Christ looks like keeping His commandments. Far from what our world might say about this being drudgery or oppressive, it actually brings about joy. One way that we keep Christ’s commandments is in how we pray for the things that Christ cares about most.

**15:12-17** Part of keeping Christ’s commandments is how disciples of Jesus love one another. Jesus has shown perfect and sacrificial love in His sacrifice; we are called to love one another in light of His care. All this we do not because we are wonderful or skillful people, but because Jesus chose us – He gave us purpose and meaning and mission.

**Context:** What Jesus speaks of in these verses is a weaving together of His teaching up to this point in such a way that it will send the disciples out on their God-given mission.

**Aim:** Every disciple of Jesus has a mission – to testify to His grace and kingship with what we say and do.

**Gospel:** Jesus does not give this mission as a punishment, but instead because He loves us and wants us to have joy in glorifying the Father and enjoying His love.

**Applications:** What does your “fruit bearing” look like these days? Will you obey Christ and therefore have true joy?

**Here is how I will apply these truths:** \_\_\_\_\_

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