

The Journey of a Disciple

John 15:1-17

Pastor JD Small - August 19-20, 2017

"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. 4 Remain in me, as I also 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 you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are 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 done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. 9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other." John 15:1-17

Check point #1 - Remaining

"Remain in me, as I also 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 you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are 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 done for you."

John 15:4-7

- **Remain- Abide in KJV- Meno: to remain, abide**

Check Point #2 - Pruning

"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." John 15:1-2

- **Prunes- Purgeth in KJV- kath-ah'-ee-ro- to Cleanse, to prune**

"If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:10-12

"And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 2:18 AMP

Check point #3 - Sacrifice

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command.” John 15:12-14

The Destination- Bearing Fruit, Fruit that Lasts

“16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:1-17

Unchurched

- ***Lost- No Jesus, no church, no interest***
- ***Forgotten- Know Jesus, no local church, no value***
- ***Distracted- Know Jesus, no priority***
- ***Disenfranchised- Know Jesus, Know Church, Know hurts***

Curious

- ***Maybe Jesus is the answer***
- ***Decide to test the waters***
- ***Have an encounter***
- ***Attend a church occasionally***
- ***Test the waters of community of disciples- small group, life group, class etc.***

Congregant

- ***“I go to Trinity...”***
- ***Know Jesus, Know Church, Are seen regularly***
- ***Remaining is beginning, happens occasionally***
- ***Pruning is beginning- as community engagement grows***

Connected

- ***Doing life with other disciples***
- ***Know Jesus, Know Church, Are Known, Are Giving (T3)***
- ***Remaining***
- ***Pruning***
- ***Sacrifice***
- ***Fruit***

Fulfilled

- ***Know Jesus, Know Church, Are Known, Are Giving, Know Purpose.***
- ***John 10:10- Have life and have it to the full***
- ***Christianity Permeates everything that they do, there is no divide between sacred and the secular, or church and not church, discipleship and not discipleship.***
- ***Modeling and teaching***
 - ***Remaining***
 - ***Pruning***
 - ***Sacrifice***
 - ***Fruit***