The Fruit of the Spirit

Tony Mauck · John 15:1–14

INTRODUCTION

- It's important that we understand the context of John 15 to appreciate it even more. This is his last night with his disciples.
- Some have come up with the mistaken notion that the branches of this illustration are the varying denominations.
- What does it mean that Jesus is the true vine? It means he is the ideal. That he is perfect.

1 Bearing Fruit

Luke 8:15; Colossians 3:12; Galatians 5

- Jesus is saying, if you're going to be one of my disciples, you need to bear fruit.
- Are we making progress and becoming more like Jesus? Do I know his will better as time has passed?
- It's simply meaning allowing Jesus to rule in our lives, our thoughts, our words, our actions, even our motives.
- They put on a heart of compassion, kindness, and humility.
- It involves being careful to engage in good deeds.
- It's the pursuit of these qualities, and they're interrelated. You can't practice one without some involvement in the others.

2 Abide in Me: It's Your Move

John 15:4; John 15:9–10

- It's your move. That means we go where he goes.
- There are incentives to do this and to be attached to Jesus, and he will enable and assist you to produce the product that he desires.
- Really, what it is an invitation to eat dessert.
- But you have to make your soul the ultimate priority. Not things, not stuff.
- What we get in the process of this is a relationship with the Lord.
- We get to enjoy Jesus' company. We need to get and stay connected to the vine.

3 By This Is My Father Glorified

John 15:8; Ephesians 3:20–21

- The devil is trying to oppose this on two ways, on two grounds. Number one, he wants you to never get connected.
- Once you get connected, let me suggest to you that the devil is doing his dead level best to get you to become unconnected.

- Abide means you get connected and you stay connected. And as you do that, what happens in the process of this is that you glorify God.
- And that's why the church exists.
- To him be the glory in the church. Both now and to all generations, forever and ever.

4 So Prove to Be My Disciples

Mark 10:28–30

- We are not disciples merely because we claim to be so. Are you proving to be his disciple?
- By how we live when we leave these confines.
- I'm going to be careful of what comes out of my mouth. I'm going to be careful about what I allow my mind to entertain and to think.
- Who you need to be concerned about is God Himself.
- You will receive a hundred times as much in this life and eternal life. In the age to come.
- The offer of the gospel is for the joy of a right relationship with the Lord.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you need to be connected to the vine? Is there some way that we can assist you in coming to the true vine today?

MY NOTES