

FRUIT THAT LASTS

JIM NICODEM | JOHN 15:1,2,4,5,8,16

Introduction:

1. The _____ that Flourishes

- _____ prayer
- _____ of Jesus' love
- Maximum _____
- _____ with Jesus
- _____ impact

2. The Growth That's _____.

3. The Glory That's _____.

- This is what _____ is like
- This is what _____ Christ followers are like.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

- 1 . What's your favorite kind of fruit— and why?
- 2 . Read John 15:1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 16 and circle every use of the word fruit (or fruitful). Broadly speaking, why does Jesus want your life to be fruitful? (Note several reasons.)
- 3 . Reread vv. 7, 16, which refers to answered prayer as part of the fruit that Christ produces in us. Why do you think there's a connection between remaining in Christ and answered prayer? What does James 4:2b, 3 teach about answered prayer?
- 4 . While God's love for us is ever-constant, what is the condition for experiencing that love in vv.9, 10? Why does disobedience undermine our experience of Jesus' love?
- 5 . What is the fruit that's produced by remaining in the Vine in v.11? Why would remaining in Christ produce this? How apparent is this fruit in your life? (Please note that this fruit is not the result of positive life circumstances— but of remaining in the Vine!)
- 6 . Reread vv.13-15. How does Jesus demonstrate friendship toward us? What are the building blocks of any good friendship? Which of these apply to your friendship with Jesus?
- 7 . Reread v.16. The word appointed refers to the mission that Jesus gives his followers in Matthew 28:18, 19, and Acts 1:8. What is that mission— and what is its fruit? Why would remaining in Christ produce that fruit in your life? (Or, how does not remaining in Christ undermine his producing that fruit in your life?)
- 8 . What does the progression from no fruit (v.2a) to fruit (v.2b) to more fruit (v.2c) to much fruit (vv.5, 8) to fruit that will last (v.16) teach us? What might be some of the telltale signs that you are passionate about bearing fruit? What should you do if you don't see fruit or a desire for fruit in your life?
- 9 . What are two results of fruit-bearing according to v.8? Why would fruit-bearing lead to these results?