

SECRETS TO A TRUE PRODUCTIVE SPIRITUAL LIFE

(John 15:1-7)

“I am **the true vine**, and my **Father is the vine dresser**. 2 Every branch in me that **does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit**. 3

Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

It's a pretty straight forward command and a serious reminder

What is a vine? (dictionary.com)

Vine definition: any plant having a long, slender stem that trails or creeps on the ground or climbs by winding itself about a support or holding fast with ... (e.g grapes)

- is a plant whose stem **requires support** and **which climbs** by tendrils or twining or **creeps along the ground** (*Merriam-webster*)

a. Jesus is the true vine. v1

b. The Father is the vine dresser v1

c. Every branch v2

No fruit - He takes away

With fruit – He prunes, that it may bear fruit

- **Pruning** is the selective removal of plant parts

d. Branches is everyone who accepted Jesus in their life

v3 Regarding the branches Jesus said, “Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.”

Note - The preceding events before Jesus said this was the last supper, Jesus was soon to leave the world. The preceding chapters celebration & intense. Giving serious reminders, commands and warnings.

Let's now dive in to unlock the “**SECRETS TO A TRUE PRODUCTIVE SPIRITUAL LIFE**”

I. BE FIRM v4

Abide in me, and I in you

Be firm that you're only source of everything is Jesus alone.

If Jesus didn't commands it – ignore it

If they cloud you're mind with their manipulative tactics – Flee from them

Matthew 24:5

For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray.

Your guarantee that makes you entirely different. (Born-again spirit filled believers)

see branches

John 14:26

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”

Say NO to worldly Christianity. Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Beware of false Christians 1 Corinthians 5:11

But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.

- People who profess but not practice
- Enjoying sin/sins after knowing Jesus

“Struggle is a result of indecisiveness”

The Secret to TRUE PRODUCTIVE SPIRITUAL LIFE Is “BE FIRM”

II. BE FAITHFUL v7a

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you

Be faithful to Jesus, stop doing things that grieves Him.

John 14:15

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

Stop grieving the Holy Spirit. Be taught and led by Him in everything.

John 14:16

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,”

READ 1 JOHN 3:1-9

Remember we are the branches of the vine,

- is a plant whose stem **requires support** and **which climbs** by tendrils or twining or **creeps** along the ground.

WE ARE to faithfully spread the gospel of Jesus, to the ends of the earth. Fulfilling the great commission

Matthew 10:16

*“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so **be wise as serpents** and **innocent as doves**.”*

Watch yourself Ephesians 5:15-17

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

The Secret to TRUE PRODUCTIVE SPIRITUAL LIFE Is “BE FIRM, BE FAITHFUL”

III. BE FRUITFUL v5

Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

- and every branch that does bear fruit he **prunes**, that it may **bear more fruit**. V2

Pruning is the selective removal of plant parts

As you mature, God will remove some/ many things in your life to make you more useful to fulfill His higher purposes in life that you never even dream of.

- Your fruits can either give life or brings death

THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Gal 5:22-24)

But the *fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

- **The flesh with it's passions and desires are those things that will make us worldly & poisonous**

THE WORKS OF THE FLESH (Gal 5:19-21) (THE POISON FRUIT)

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy,[d] drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Jesus said in Matt 7:16-20

16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

The fruits are the evident changes in your spiritual life.

App: How long have you been connected to Jesus?

- Are you a life-bearing fruit branch or a poison bearing fruit branch?

Conclusion:

The secrets to TRUE PRODUCTIVE SPIRITUAL LIFE Is “BE FIRM, BE FAITHFUL so that you will be always FRUITFUL.

Be firm in your foundation in Jesus Christ

Be faithful as led by the Holy Spirit

And surely Your FRUITS will be pleasing and acceptable to God.