

# BEING A PERSON GOD WORKS THROUGH

John 15:1-8 • August 13, 2023

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***“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”***

— John 15:8

***For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.***

— Ephesians 2:10

- We all want our lives to count, to bear fruit, to have meaning.

## I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BEAR MUCH FRUIT?

- A. Fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).
- B. This leads to a positive impact on others, actions of service, compassion, mentoring, teaching, and nurturing.

## II. LIFE IN THE VINEYARD WITH JESUS

- A. Pruned for greater fruitfulness (John 15:2)

***No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.***

— Hebrews 12:11

- B. Growing deeper with Jesus and others. (John 15:4)

***Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him.***

— Colossians 2:6

- C. Transformed character and impactful actions. (John 15:8)

***Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.***

— Matthew 5:16

## III. BEING A PERSON GOD WORKS THROUGH

- A. Are you a person who is optimistic for change?

***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.***

— Romans 12:2

***And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.***

— Galatians 6:9

- B. Are you a person who is accountability-driven?

***Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.***

— Proverbs 15:22

***And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good deeds.***

— Hebrews 10:24

- C. Are you a person who is relationally motivated?

***As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.***

— Proverbs 27:17

***Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.***

— 1 Thessalonians 5:11

- D. Are you a person who is growth-minded?

***But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.***— 2 Peter 3:18

***I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.*** — Philippians 3:14

## CONCLUSION

*We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.*

— Colossians 1:9-10