



Day 6, Saturday, January 27, 2024

Living with Power and Purpose

READ - John 15:1-4; Romans 15:13

As we near the end of the first week of fasting, you may be tired. You may be wondering how you will be able to fast for two more weeks. It reminds me of how often in life we feel tired. Physically tired, spiritually tired, emotionally tired. We have so many things pulling at our time and making us tired. Our daily To Do lists just seem to get longer and longer with less and less time for rest. Do you ever have those days where you just feel completely drained? Like you have nothing left to give? I often ask myself, "How can I fulfill the purpose God has for me when I feel like I have no more to give?"

The answer is simple. God's Word, the Bible. Jesus tells us in John 15:1-4, "*I am the vine ... Remain in me.*" It takes discipline to keep your relationship with Christ at the top of the priority list. Especially, when there are so many other things fighting to be at the top of the list. The Bible is very clear though, in that if we are to bear fruit **we must stay connected to the vine.**

He will prune us to bear fruit and cut off what is not bearing fruit for His purpose. God does have a plan and a purpose for each and every one of us. We must remain in Him to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. If we put God first and stay connected to Him, He will give us the strength and power to do the tasks He has set before us.

REFLECT

This has been a season where so many of us have felt disconnected from Christ, the church, our family. We have filled our time, schedules and lives with other stuff, habits and interests.

What areas of your life are not bearing fruit and can be pruned?

Where can you find more time in your schedule, your week, your life to stay connected to the vine?

PRAY

Father God, I pray for You to help me stay connected to the Vine. Lord, I desire You in every aspect of my life. Please prune off the things that are not important and get in the way of my time with You. I know that I can only fulfill your purpose for me by being filled with Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus name, amen!

