

Home Group Notes
Week of October 29, 2023
“Called” week 5
Bearing Fruit



This is our final week on our calling from Jesus to be and make disciples. Our focus is on the fourth branch of discipleship (“called to bear fruit”) and specifically, what it means to “bear fruit that lasts.” Much of the New Testament gives examples of the “good works” we can do. Therefore, this week’s study and discussion will be a sampler of ways that we can be and make disciples of Jesus.

LEARN FROM GOD’S WORD

Let’s begin with the call to bear fruit (crops) as a follower of Jesus Christ. Jesus, knowing that He was going away, was reminding His close followers of what He had done for and with them, and promised that they too would see God “work” through them (14:12). Then in chapter 15, Jesus called them / us to “bear fruit.” What does this mean? Three things: (1) making of new disciples (conversion plus) (John 4:35-36; 14:12), (2) love people (and thereby fulfill His command) (15:9,17), and (3) continue Jesus’ kingdom work (business) in the world to the glory of God (15:8, 15).

Read John 14:13-17 and 15:1-17 and consider these questions.

What did Jesus say is essential if we are to bear fruit?

What did Jesus say about “love?”

What specifics did Jesus say about ‘How’ to bear fruit? (15:7-12, 16)

How does God help us bear fruit? (14:13-17)

Examples of bearing fruit in Acts. What do you see in these passages?

2:40-47

9:36-42

11:20-24

Examples of bearing fruit in the New Testament letters. What do you see in . . .

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10?

Titus 2:3-10

DISCUSS TOGETHER

Bill Born concluded his message that the good works of our daily lives includes . . .

- love-inspired obedience to God's commands
- stewardship of our resources - time, talents, and finances
- a daily walk of love and service to others

How are these a part of making disciples of Jesus Christ?

As we have learned, God has called, empowered, and gifted every follower of Jesus to bear fruit that lasts. The Apostle Paul wrote that we were "created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10) What comes to mind when you think of good works that God has prepared for you?

APPLY IT THIS WEEK

How do you see God working through you to help the church make disciples? Is there a way that the church leaders could help you do what you think God has asked you to do? Would you like to be on a team? (We are available to you. Email Steve at sspringsted@trinityonline.org)

PRAY TOGETHER

- Please pray for our Elders and search team
- Please pray for our Kid's Ministries teams and busy calendar
- Please pray for the Micah House team as they love and serve neighbors