



ABIDE The SOURCE

ICEBREAKER

What is one characteristic you received from your parents that you want to keep and one you wish you could change?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read: Philippians 2:1-11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• **Read:** John 15:1-2

It is impossible to be fruitful without first being faithful — but you can be faithful but not be fruitful. You can be faithful in attending church, giving to the church, helping out at church —but if Jesus is not the source of all you do you will not produce the necessary fruit and you will be cut off and you will not experience the joy of the Lord because the Lord is your true source of who you are. Being fruitful has everything to do with the source in your life because the source determines substance.

Discuss a time in your life that while you were faithful you knew you were not bearing any fruit

Share of a time that because of being faithful that you were able to bring glory to God by being fruitful.

• **Read:** Galatians 5:22-23

Philippians 2:5-8

Philippians 4:8-9

Matthew 28:18-20

When you exhibit a Christ-like character with a Christ-like attitude it will put you in the position where He will use you for His Christ-like Mission. One of the reasons God saved you is that you might bear fruit in this world. You are living in hungry world where people are starving for spiritual reality. The branch does not bear fruit for the branch to eat, but for others to eat.

Of the verses we read, what do you find the most difficult in your daily living to follow?

Of these same verses what do you desire the most in your life that God be glorified?

How might you make a change(s) that you can begin bearing more fruit to bring glory to God?

• **Read:** John 13:35

John 14:31

Matthew 5:16

As you live connected to Jesus and bear fruit in your life, how can that serve as a witness to unbelievers around you?

- The fact that Jesus says He is the TRUE vine indicates there are false vines in the world that we can attach ourselves to.

A false vine will promise you life but it can't deliver life.

A false vine will promise you peace but it can't deliver peace.

A false vine will promise you joy but it can't deliver joy because it is false. It can't give you what it doesn't have.

What are some false vines that you can think of and how can we avoid becoming attached to them?

What happens if we try to produce fruit on our own?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Let's be honest. There may be times when you feel like you are a withered branch, empty and not bearing much fruit. What may be the reason? Consider such things as sin, ignoring God, blaming God for your circumstances, attachment to another source. Ask God to reveal to you so that you may repent and abide in Him.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

We are a branch to whatever we attach ourselves to, to whatever we "abide" in. Warren Weisrbe is quoted stating, *"Right now, you are either wasting your life, spending your life, or investing your life. It is you who determines which course to follow"*.

Consider this statement and do an inventory of areas in your life that you can list under each of these.

Under "wasting", challenge yourself to change these to move into the other two categories.

MEMORY VERSE

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. — **Philippians 4:8-9**

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