



Loving Our Neighbors
Love the Way Jesus Taught It
The Source of Love

Let's consider 3 themes from John 15:1-17 that explain God's intentions for those following His Son

I. Remain in the True Source of Love

John 15:1 - *I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser ...*

John 15:5 - *I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.*

A. By constantly remembering and giving thanks for the expressions of love by Christ

John 15:12-15 - *This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.*

B. Because we require the constant nourishment that comes from Jesus in order to love

II. Produce Lasting Fruit through Love

A. Bearing fruit through love is the means by which we fulfill our purpose

John 15:8 - *My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.*

B. Bearing fruit involves the results of effective prayer in Jesus' name

John 15:7 - *If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

John 15:16 - *You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.*

C. There is an expectation that the amount of fruit continues to increase

John 15:2 - *Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit...*

John 15:5 - *I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.*

D. There is a grave concern for those who are not bearing fruit

John 15:6 - *If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned.*

III. Experience Complete Joy