

John 15:8-16

John 15:8-11 *“(8) Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. (9) As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. (10) If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. (11) These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.”*

- A. When we bear fruit God is glorified (**Philippians 1:10-11** and **I Peter 4:11**).
 - 1. We are expected to glorify God in the things that we say and do (**Romans 15:5-6**, **I Corinthians 6:20**, **I Corinthians 10:31**, and **II Thessalonians 1:11-12**).
 - 2. To be a disciple of Christ, we have to bring forth good fruit (**Luke 8:15** and **John 8:31-32**).
 - a. Our actions, and the results of those actions, show who we really are (**Matthew 7:15-20**, **Luke 6:43-45**, **Titus 1:16**, and **I John 3:8-10**).
 - b. True faith produces good works (**Galatians 5:22-23**, **Colossians 1:10**, and **James 2:14-26**).
- B. Continuing in the love of our Lord (**Jude 21**).
 - 1. We continue in His love through obedience (**John 14:21-24**).
 - 2. We continue to have His joy in us through obedience (**Psalms 40:8**, **Psalms 119:47**, **Proverbs 29:18**, **John 13:17**, and **Romans 7:22**).

John 15:12-14 *“(12) This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. (13) Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. (14) Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”*

- A. We're expected to love one another as Christ has loved us (**John 13:34-35**).
 - 1. You are obeying God when you love the brethren (**Romans 12:10**, **Hebrews 13:1**, **I Peter 3:8**, and **I John 3:14-18**).
 - 2. The love of Christ toward us is also used as an example of how a husband is to love his wife (**Ephesians 5:25**).
- B. Love is shown through action (**II Corinthians 8:24**).
 - 1. A willingness to die for loved one's is a statement of love (**Romans 5:6-8** and **Ephesians 5:2**).
 - 2. Obedience is also a way we can show our love for Christ (**John 14:15**, **I John 2:3-6**, and **I John 5:2-3**).

John 15:15-16 *“(15) Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. (16) Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.”*

A. Jesus tries to show the disciples that they are more than just servants (**Galatians 4:1-6**).

1. Once obedient to the Gospel, we become God's children (**Matthew 12:46-50, John 20:17, II Corinthians 6:14-18, and I John 3:1**).

a. That does not mean we are not servants (**Romans 6:22, II Corinthians 4:5, and Galatians 5:13**).

b. Moreover, we cannot let ourselves get trapped into thinking of ourselves in an arrogant manner (**Luke 17:7-10**).

2. One of the reasons that the disciples were more than servants is that Jesus declared all of the Father's will to them (**Matthew 13:10-17**).

B. Jesus reminds the disciples that He chose them, not the other way around (**Luke 6:13-18, John 6:70, and John 13:18**).

1. Jesus appointed them work to do (**Matthew 10:5-7 and Luke 24:47**).

2. The work the disciples were to do brought forth fruit even to our generation (**Ephesians 2:19-20**).

3. Jesus had not chosen them to just let them alone either, but had given them an opportunity to ask God for what they needed (**John 16:23-24**).