



FRUITFUL IN A FAMINE  
THE PROBLEM OF FRUITLESSNESS

JOHN 15:1-8

Ben Blakey - Compass Bible Church - May 16, 2021

1. Understand \_\_\_\_\_  
(vv. 1-8)

**John 15:1-8 (ESV)**

*15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.*

2. See \_\_\_\_\_  
(vv. 2, 6)

3. Declare \_\_\_\_\_  
(vv. 3-4)

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Review the illustration Jesus uses in John 15:1-8. What about this imagery helps you understand more about the Christian life?
  
2. What is some of the fruit (changes in attitude and actions that reflect the life of Christ flowing through you) that you have seen in your own life since becoming a Christian? Give glory to God and spend some time thanking Jesus (the Vine) for the work that he has done in your life!
  
3. **Read Matthew 7:21-23.** What comes to your mind as you read about people who think they will be fine on judgment day but end up being cast out? What impact should these sobering verses have on your life and ministry?
  
4. **Read Romans 3:20.** While few people today think they can earn their righteousness by keeping the Old Testament law, what are some ways average people today may rely on themselves and basically come up with their own system of works righteousness?

<p><b>RECOMMENDED RESOURCES</b></p> <p><i>Here are some books which may help you dig deeper into what we studied today. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse everything about each book/author, he does think these books are worth considering and reading.</i></p> <p>MacArthur, John. <i>The Gospel According to Jesus</i>. Zondervan, 2008.</p> <p>Watson, Thomas. <i>Meditation</i>. H&amp;E Publishing, 2021.</p>	<p><b>PRAYER REQUESTS</b></p> <p>Pray that many who have some external form of Christianity would experience the revival that only comes from an internal connection to Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Pray that our church would bear much fruit and glorify God.</p> <p>Praise God for a fruitful year in our AWANA ministry.</p> <p>Pray for Compass Bible Church Tustin as they also pursue a full-time ministry facility.</p> <p>Pray that God will provide a long-term home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.</p>
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### REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	O.T.	Psalms	Gospels	N.T.
5/17	1 Samuel 17	Psalms 61	Mark 9:1-13	1 Corinthians 7:1-24
5/18	1 Samuel 18-19	Psalms 62	Mark 9:14-29	1 Corinthians 7:25-40
5/19	1 Samuel 20-21	Psalms 63:1-4	Mark 9:30-37	1 Corinthians 8:1-6
5/20	1 Samuel 22-24	Psalms 63:5-11	Mark 9:38-41	1 Corinthians 8:7-13
5/21	1 Samuel 25	Psalms 64	Mark 9:42-50	1 Corinthians 9:1-18
5/22	1 Samuel 26-28	Psalms 65:1-4	Mark 10:1-16	1 Corinthians 9:19-27