

John 15:1-8
“Fruit: The Divine Product of the Church”
November 8, 2015

•**1Corinthians 15:58** *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.*

•**John 15:16** *You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.*

•**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. Christianity is not about _____ an old life, but experiencing _____ life.

•**Romans 6:4** *We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

•**Acts 5:20** *“Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people the full message of this new life.*

•**Romans 8:10** *But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.*

B. Christ-like _____ are fruits of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:2-23)

C. Another type of fruit are _____ who are drawn to Christ because of our _____. (John 4:35)

D. _____ is a type of spiritual fruit. (Hebrews 13:15)

E. _____ we give as a response of faith to God is also spiritual fruit. (**Romans 15:28, Philippians 4:17**)

Fruit of the Spirit: *any characteristic or act that is a result of God’s Spirit working in and through us.*

F. There is no _____ spiritual fruit.

Simple Truth: **I will be tempted to sin, and willful sin will hinder my relationship with God. (Psalm 66:18. Proverbs 28:13)**

G. The Process by which we are made able to produce good fruit is _____ by the _____.

•**Galatians 5:16** *So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.*

•**Romans 8:5** *Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.*

“The terrible thing, the almost impossible thing, is to hand over your whole self – all your wishes and precautions – to Christ. But it is far easier than what we are all trying to do instead. For what we are trying to do is to remain what we call “ourselves,” to keep personal happiness as our great aim in life, and yet at the same time be “good.” We are all trying to let our mind and heart go their own way – centered on money or pleasure or ambition – and hoping, in spite of this, to behave honestly and chastely and humbly. And that is exactly what Christ warned us you could not do. As He said, a thistle cannot produce figs. “ C.S. Lewis. “Mere Christianity” pg 168.