## **BEING FRUITFUL**

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Jesus loved to convey the deepest truths with simply, earthly examples. In His last message before His death, He wanted you and me to comprehend with our whole being what He has left us on this earth to do and that is to be fruitful!

Jesus is the vine. The Father is the vinedresser. He is the keeper of the vineyard, the One who oversees the growth and the health of each plant.

You and I are the branches. The branches are the focus of the vinedresser's efforts because they produce the fruit. The vinedresser lovingly cultivates each branch so that it will bear as much fruit as possible.

In practical terms, fruit represents good works. Things that we do that brings glory to God. The fruit from our lives is how God receives honor on earth.

We bear inner fruit whenever we become Christ like and manifest the fruit of the Spirit and we bear outward fruit when we allow God to work through us to bring glory and honor to Him.

We were created and saved by Christ Jesus so that we would do good works. We're not saved by good works. we are saved by grace for good works.

God desire for us is to be fruitful. Everything that He does or allows in our life is to move us from a state of barrenness to a place of fruitfulness.

Pruning is a grower's single most important technique for ensuring a plentiful harvest.

The most fruitful and most joy filled Christians are those who have been pruned the most.

Jesus said, "Abide in me. The branch can't bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine."

The reasons most Christians don't have much fruit is because they aren't abiding! In order for the branch to bear fruit it has to be connected to the vine. It is through our connection to the vine that we receive the nutrients that we need to be productive.

"Abide" Jesus said. That is a command. That is not a suggestion or a request. It is imperative. It is something that is necessary.

A branch severed from the vine isn't going to produce anything. If we are not abiding in Him, we wither and die and become of no spiritual use and if we aren't of any spiritual use, the Bible says that we will be thrown into the fire.

But if we abide in Him, if we stay connected to the vine, if His Spirit flows through us, then we will be productive, we will be fruitful for the Kingdom of God.