FOLLOWING JESUS

A Series of Lessons on Discipleship



Luke 6:40 -

"A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher."



Why do so few follow Christ?

- 1. There is **no truth** *so do what you want*
- 2. There all a bunch of hypocrites -



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



As disciples who abide in Christ, we are to bring glory to God by becoming like Christ in all things.

1. As disciples we either bring God shame or we cause Him to be glorified.

1 Peter 2:11, 12 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. 12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:15

For such is the will of God that by **doing right** you may **silence** the ignorance of foolish men.

1 Peter 3:16 ...and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.





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Titus 2:6-8 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; 7 in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, 8 sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

Titus 2:9-10 Urge bond slaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, 10 not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.





1. As disciples we either bring God shame or we cause Him to be glorified.

Hebrews 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren.

Hebrews 11:6 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.





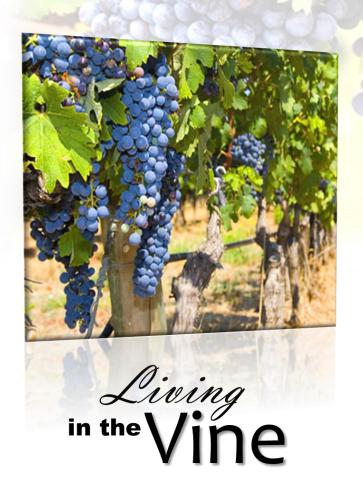




Romans 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become **conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren.

Colossians 3:9, 10 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the **new self** who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the **image of the One who created him.**

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The FRUIT which we bear:

2 Peter 1:4-8

For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature,

having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.





The FRUIT:

Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply

- moral excellence, and in your moral excellence,
- knowledge, 6 and in your knowledge,
- self-control, and in your self-control,
- perseverance, and in your perseverance,
- godliness, 7 and in your godliness,
- brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness,
- love.

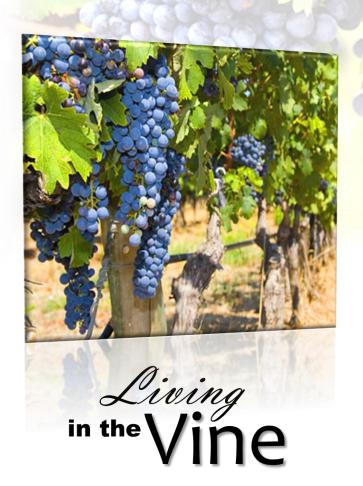


Living in the Vine

and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#3 Question on the USA Today poll was, "Why do bad things happen?"

"every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit" 15:2



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To become like Jesus Christ God is going to take you through everything Jesus went through.

To take on the divine nature God puts you in the opposite situation of the desired nature.

"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit"

15:5

3. We become such disciples only by abiding in Him.

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."

• **Abide**[s] – 10



3. We become such disciples only by abiding in Him.

John 15:1-11



- Vine/branch 8
- **Abide**[s] 10
- **Fruit** 6
- In Me/My 17
- **You**[r] **17**

"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 bears **fruit**, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. 3 "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. 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. 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. 7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. 9 "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved **you**; **abide** in **My** love. 10 "If you keep **My** commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. 11"These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

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"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."





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