

Designed for Discipleship: The Product (John 15)

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DESIGNED FOR DISCIPLESHIP series recap:

- The Purpose: Why does God want us to make disciples?
Because God loves the lost and His church!
- The Practice: How does God make us disciples?
By being with him through the discipleship practices!
- The Product: What does discipleship produce in us?

Answer: Discipleship produces spiritual fruit:

John 15:1-8, *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me & I in you, you'll bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, & it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

The spiritual fruit that is produced in us is love:

John 15:9 *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love."*

#1 A love that leads to us following Jesus!

John 15:10, *If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.*

#2 A love that leads to us being changed by Jesus!

John 15:11, *I have told you this so that my joy may be in you that your joy may be complete.*

Galatians 5:22-23, *the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control...*

#3 A love that leads to us being committed to the mission of Jesus!

John 15:12-16a, *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last...*

John 4:35-36, *You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest. The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike! (NLT)*

John 13:35, *By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

You can still join us for today's discipleship training event in Small Church from 1pm-3pm. Lunch is provided.

THANKSGIVING: While the holidays bring many people joy, I know it can be a sad time for those who find themselves far from family (and those who have recently lost a loved one). If you find yourself with nowhere to go this Thanksgiving my family would like to invite you over to our house for dessert from 6pm-8pm. Being a part of God's family means that no one in the church should ever feel alone!

Visit www.go2cornerstone.com/thanksgiving to let us know you are coming :)