

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." John 15:7-8 KJV



Fruit is grown to gather, not decorate the branch. Branches without sap bear no fruit. The indwelling Holy Spirit enables believer's thoughts, prayers, and actions. *"The Anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same Anointing teacheth you of all things, and is Truth (God's Word), and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him (Christ/ God's Word made flesh)." Without "The Word, we are nothing."* If I have done any good, it is *"Christ (God's Word) in me, the hope of glory"* that has enabled it. A fruitful witness must of necessity be a witness to Jesus Christ's power, mercy, grace, and love. The fruit that I bear is there by virtue of the Divine presence in my life and is therefore, not my fruit, but His. *"The Spirit of Truth...will guide you into all Truth. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, [and] temperance."* If I am to bear fruit worth gathering, it must be His. Satan has masterminded isolationism with technology. It seems to provide all the social interaction desired, but those that socialize via electronics are isolated and alone in an electronic bubble. I think of the addictive power that possesses "Gamers" as they escape life into a surreal camaraderie of escapism. Addictions are an attempt to escape real life via some way other than the *"way of escape"* provided by the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. Satan has attempted to counterfeit, via electronics, the unseen working of the Holy Spirit in the believer's Assembly. God never wanted us isolated and alone where Satan can manipulate thoughts. *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."* An isolated fruit tree has no purpose. Its fruit will fall and rot rather than be gathered and enjoyed. What fruit do I give to others? Jesus said, *"Ye shall be witnesses unto me"* Fruit verifies life. The Spirit's fruit verifies the hope of abundant and beautiful Truth! *"Sanctify (treasure) the Lord God in your hearts (thoughts): and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you."* As we *"meditate (think) therein day and night"* fruit is offered to others as a witness to Jesus Christ, the Word, for *"as a man THINKETH in his heart (mind) so is he."* Answered prayer is a most edifying witness to others. Don't be afraid to pray out loud in front of others. Jesus prayed aloud and in secret. Your answered prayer is tangible evidence of unseen hope, but is only provided to those *"who abide"* in Truth. If we are afraid to let others know of our requests, it is because we doubt. Doubt is unbelief. *"And [Jesus] did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief. Ask in faith (believing), nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord."* Are your prayers unanswered? Search your heart! DOING God's Word is abiding in God's Word!

The branch that bears abundant fruit,
Was pruned and sheared from tiny shoot,
With loving hand its progress grown,
To offer fruit that's not its own. ~CGP

Trial and hardship in a believer's life work for the good of their fruit bearing. Give your difficulties totally to God. Watch Him deliver you *"from all your troubles!"* Then you can give witness to the Truth, God's Word!

"If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:6-7 KJV