

John 15:1-8



## Discern the Body of Jesus Christ

#### THE BREAKING OF HIS BODY GRANTS US ACCESS

#### John 19:34 NKJV

<sup>34</sup> But one of the soldiers **pierced His side with a spear**, and immediately **blood and** water came out.

His body was broken when His side was pierced, and we were granted **access** to the life of God. (Blood and Water).



#### Discern the Blood of Jesus Christ

Life in the Bood & Sanctification through the Water

#### Leviticus 17:44 (NV)

<sup>11</sup> For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar

to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."

#### Ephesians 5:26 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup>that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,



#### Discern the Blood of Jesus Christ

Redemption in the Blood & Sanctification through the water

The blood redeemed us, and redeemed the ground upon which it spilled.

Psalm 1:6a (MSG)

God charts the road you take.

The water sanctifies and cleanses us; making us a better reflection of Christ.



### The True Vine - John 15:1-4

- <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.
- <sup>2</sup>Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.
- <sup>4</sup>Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.



### The True Vine - John 15:5-8

- 5"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.
- If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.
- If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.
- <sup>8</sup>By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.



# 4 Stages of fruitfulness identified in John 15:1-8

- 1) No Fruit Stage
- 2) Fruit Stage
- 3) More Fruit Stage
- 4) Much Fruit Stage



## Why Pray for Fruitfulness?

#### Genesis 1:28a (NIV)

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, <u>"Be fruitful...</u>

- Being fruitful is God's original intent for mankind.
- Fruitfulness is man's identity. Man was designed to be in a "state of extreme productivity" in every area of life. (Matthew 7:20 (NKJV) - Therefore by their fruits you will know them.)
- Restoration to our original state of being according to God's design.
- Fruitfulness is the blessing. (Proverbs 10:22 (KJV) The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.





## 1) No Fruit Stage

John 15:1-2 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.



## No Fruit Stage

When we are fruitless, the Lord lifts us up - "airo" [the Greek word] meaning "to raise, take up, lift".

Our lifting could be through

- -the gospel of salvation.
- -a Word of encouragement from a brother or sister.
- -personal study of the Word and fellowship with the Holy Spirit.
- -etc.

We need to embrace the Lord's methods of lifting so that we can begin bearing fruit(s).



## No Fruit Stage

#### John (5:152 (TPT)

<sup>1</sup>"I am a true sprouting vine, and the farmer who tends the vine is my Father.

<sup>2</sup>He cares for the branches connected to me by lifting and propping up the fruitless branches and pruning every fruitful branch to yield a greater harvest.



## 2) Fruit Stage

John 15:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup>Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.



## Fruit Stage

 After "lifting" us, we begin to bear fruit. At the fruitful stage, so much work [pruning] still needs to be done before we get to the more fruit stage.

"Pruning", in Greek, "kathairó" which means "to cleanse". Therefore,
pruning at this stage is what will enable us bear more fruit.

 As children of God we are cleansed by the washing with water through the Word



## Fruit Stage

- Ephesians 5:26 (NKJV)
- <sup>26</sup>that He might <u>sanctify</u> and <u>cleanse</u> her with the <u>washing of water by the</u> <u>word,</u>

- John 17:17 (NIV)
- <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.



## 3) More Fruit Stage

John 15:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup>Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear <u>more fruit</u>.



## More Fruit Stage

#### John (5:4 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup>Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.



## 4) Much Fruit Stage

#### John 15:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup>"I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears <u>much fruit;</u> for without Me you can do nothing.

#### John 15:8 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> By this My Father is glorified, that you bear <u>much fruit;</u> so you will be My disciples.



## Summary of the stages of fruitfulness from John 15:1-8

Abide in the Lord

4) Much Fruit Stage John 15:4-5, 8

The Lord Prunes (cleanses)

3) More Fruit Stage John 15:2b

The Lord Lifts and Props

2) Fruit Stage John 15:2b

1) No Fruit Stage John 15:2a



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