

Zion Chapel Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A.

2022 Vacation Bible School

Adult Bible Study

Zoom Meeting ID: 83977289893

Access Code: 421720

**Living Out Loud for Jesus!**

**(Bear Much Fruit!)**

# Bearing Much Fruit

## Week Summary:

1. Introduction – Fruit: The Carrier of the Seed for Reproduction
2. The True Vine - Christ
3. The Priceless Value of the Seed – The Word of God
4. The Prepared Soil – Understanding with the Heart → Faith Comes
5. The Miracle of Salvation – Faith + Nothing
6. Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity
7. Pruning – What God does!
8. Types of Fruit

# Bearing Much Fruit

Our Lost Identity

Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

# Bearing Much Fruit

Our Lost Identity: Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

Romans 6:1-7

- **6** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
- <sup>2</sup> God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
- <sup>3</sup> Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
- <sup>4</sup> Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

# Bearing Much Fruit

Our Lost Identity: Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

Romans 6:1-7 (cont.)

- <sup>5</sup> For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:
- <sup>6</sup> Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
- <sup>7</sup> For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Galatians 2:20

- <sup>20</sup> I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

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## Our Lost Identity: Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

- Does “Jesus loves you” mean you can get away with stuff? If not, who determines what’s OK and not OK? Does forgiveness mean you’re off the hook? Does behavior matter?
- Some of us wrestle with guilt from sinful acts and worry about our eternal standing with God.
- Other Christians live as though receiving grace means behavior doesn’t matter.
- And therein lies the problem many Christians face. Somehow, we know behavior matters. We also know the message of the gospel is that grace is free. What to do?

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Our Lost Identity: Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

- But cheap grace stops at the beginning of salvation.
- And that's where human legalism loves to rush in. You've received Christ's forgiveness; now you've got to shape up, play the part, do the work, put in the effort, rise to the occasion, meet the standard. Try harder. And wear yourself out!

Here's the transforming truth;

- **True grace deals with both our past – and our future.**

# Bearing Much Fruit

## Our Lost Identity: Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

### **Full Grace**

- When Jesus saves you He doesn't only set you free from your past; He makes a different future available for you.
- In order to live in that future, you have to *become* someone else. Someone new.
- The full message of grace is that it is not only deals with your past; it's also big enough to change you into who God needs you to be for your future.
- God, through the grace of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit living in us, changes us from the inside out. That's the true amazing power of grace. That's the real miracle. You and I actually become different.



# Bearing Much Fruit

Our Lost Identity: Cheap Grace vs. Legalism

## **How Do We Get There**

- We get there **by sticking around long enough for Him to change us.** By **saying YES** when the Holy Spirit puts His finger on something in our lives saying, “This here, it needs to change. Let Me change you here.”
- You and I don’t supply the power to change ourselves. But like a sailboat, we must raise our sails to catch the wind of the Holy Spirit, to allow Him access so He can do His work in changing us from the inside out.
- Don’t quit before your transformation! It’s never too early to say **Yes**. And it’s never too late to allow Him to do His work in you.

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Abiding in Christ – Our New  
Identity in Christ

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## Group Discussion:

What does the biblical term “In Christ” mean?

1. How does being in Christ affect our identity if at all?

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Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

Identity (def.)

- The definition of identity is who you are, the way you think about yourself, the way you are viewed by the world and the characteristics that define you.
- The condition or fact of being the same or exactly alike; sameness; oneness.
- the individual characteristics by which a thing or person is recognized or known.
- the qualities, beliefs, etc., that make a particular person or group different from others.

# Bearing Much Fruit

## Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

### Key Points About Identity

- What we believe about ourselves (identity) has a huge impact on what we allow ourselves to do (action) and what we believe ourselves capable of achieving (purpose).
- When we know who we are, we understand what our purpose is and act in ways that reinforce what we believe about ourselves.
- Christian selfhood is not defined in terms of who we are in and of ourselves. It's defined in terms of what God does to us and the relationship he creates with us and the destiny he appoints for us.
- God made us who we are so we could make known who he is. Our identity is for the sake of making known his identity."

# Bearing Much Fruit

Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

Acts 17:28 – **I am the offspring of Christ**

- 28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'

Romans 7:4 – **I am married to Christ**

- <sup>4</sup> Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

Romans 5:1 – **I am not guilty in Christ and have peace with God**

- **5** Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

# Bearing Much Fruit

Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

Romans 8:1 – **I am not condemned in Christ.**

- **8** There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8: 38-39 – **God loves me unconditionally (inseparable) in Christ.**

- **38** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
- **39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 4:13 – **I can do all through all thing in Christ.**

**13** I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

# Bearing Much Fruit

Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

Romans 5:19 – **I am “made” righteous in Christ**

- <sup>19</sup> For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Romans 6:11 – **I am dead to the power of sin in Christ**

- <sup>11</sup> Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Romans 6:22 – **I am set free from sin in Christ**
- <sup>22</sup> But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.



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Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

Colossians 3:13 – **I am forgiven in Christ**

<sup>13</sup> Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

Ephesians 2:10 – **I am God's workmanship (masterpiece) in Christ**

<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

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Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

1 Corinthians 12:27 – **I am now a member of Christ's body**

<sup>27</sup> Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

Ephesians 2:6 – **I am seated with Christ in heavenly places**

<sup>6</sup> And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Romans 15:13 - **I am filled with joy and peace in Christ**

<sup>13</sup> Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

# Bearing Much Fruit

Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

2 Corinthians 5:17 – **I am a new creature in Christ**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Galatians 2:20 – **I am crucified with Christ and now live by faith in Christ**

<sup>20</sup> I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

2 Corinthians 5:21 – **I am the righteousness of God**

<sup>21</sup> For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

# Bearing Much Fruit

Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

Ephesians 4:24 – **I am created in righteousness and true holiness in Christ.**

<sup>24</sup> And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

1 Corinthians 2:16 – **I have the mind of Christ**

<sup>16</sup> For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ.

# Bearing Much Fruit

## Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

- I am the offspring of Christ
- I am married to Christ
- I am not guilty in Christ and have peace with God
- I am “made” righteous in Christ
- I am dead to the power of sin in Christ
- I am set free from sin in Christ
- I am not condemned in Christ
- God loves me unconditionally (inseparable) in Christ
- I can do all through all thing in Christ

# Bearing Much Fruit

## Abiding in Christ – Our New Identity in Christ

- I am a new creature in Christ
- I am crucified with Christ and now live by faith in Christ
- I am the righteousness of God
- I am forgiven in Christ
- I am God's workmanship (masterpiece) in Christ
- I am now a member of Christ's body
- I am seated with Christ in heavenly places
- I am filled with joy and peace in Christ
- I am created in righteousness and true holiness in Christ
- I have the mind of Christ