



I. INTRO

A. Fresh fruit

John 15:4-5, 8 (NLT) Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing... When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

- Fruit doesn't *make* you a disciple, fruit *reveals* what you're already connected to

B. What kind of fruit?

- Jesus spends more time talking about **connection** than outcomes
 - Abide in Me
 - Remain in Me
 - Stay connected to Me

John 15:5 (NLT) “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

II. GOD'S ORDER

A. Order matters

Isaiah 37:31 (NKJV) And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

B. Fruitful for a life-time

Psalms 92:12-14 (NKJV) The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing

- God isn't just interested in what your life looks like in only one season. He's shaping who you become **over a lifetime**

C. Roots don't win ribbons

- Many of the “fruit problems” we deal with are really root problems
- The unseen roots are where God does His deepest work
- Hidden seasons are not wasted seasons. They are formation seasons



D. Israel in the wilderness

Deuteronomy 8:11, 17 (NLT) “But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today... He did all this so you would never say to yourself, ‘I have achieved this wealth with my own strength and energy.’

- Roots are where trust is formed—BOTH WAYS. God prepares us underground for what He wants to entrust to us above ground

IV. SEED AND SOIL

A. Roots and fruit always start as seed

1 Peter 1:23 (NKJV) having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever

- Seeds are not the finished product—but seeds carry the future inside them

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT) But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

B. A life rooted in Christ will begin to look like Christ

- Showing up should result in growing up
- When the seed is incorruptible, and the soil is healthy, **fruit is inevitable**
- We’ve come full circle

John 15:8 (NLT) When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

C. Get planted

- Where You’re Planted Matters
- What You Feed Your Roots Matters
- Time Matters

D. From rooted to growing

- A life that is being formed into the likeness of Christ, step by step
- This season is quiet, intentional, It’s often slow
- He who began a good work in you will complete it