

Jesus-Centered Questions

- How does this passage reveal aspects of Jesus' character or mission?
- In what ways do these passages align with or challenge Jesus' teachings, actions, or mission?
- How do these passages inspire me to embody Jesus' love more fully?
- What next steps can I take to better align my life with Jesus' way?



a study of The Gospel According to John

Summer/Fall/Winter 2025-2026

Lesson #18

John 15

"Love, Joy, Peace"

REVIEW: Jesus is in the middle of his farewell address to his closest companions. Most likely there are more followers than the eleven remaining disciples, as women are part of his band, as well. He has just introduced his upcoming departure and the sending of the Holy Spirit, which we learned in Greek is neither male nor female. Jesus says he goes to prepare a place for his followers, but also says he and his Father will come and live in them. The Spirit's job is to call to mind those things of Jesus' words so one can do the works of Jesus, and even greater works. The Father, Son, and Spirit are bestowing their authority on all believers in order to do the works of Jesus here on earth. Keeping Jesus' WORD, is how we show our love and is the avenue through which God can make their home with us and how we can hear the Spirit, and how we can bear much fruit.

VOCABULARY:

Remain: μένω (menó) abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry

Prune: καθαίρω (kathairó) To cleanse, to purify, to prune (Jn 15:2&3)

Complete: πληρόω (pléroó) To fill, to make full, to complete, to fulfill (Jn 15:11)

Love: φιλέω (phileó) To love, to have affection for, to be fond of (Jn 15:19)

Love: ἀγαπάω (agapaó) To love, wholehearted, unconditional, devoted love of the heart; **not** of the head (feelings, conditional, sentimental)

BRIEF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT:

The operative words in John 15 are:

"remain" –11 times

"fruit" –11 times

"*agape* love" –9 times

"hate" –7 times

The key to understanding Jesus' final discourse in chapters 14-17 is in these words, and what they mean to Jesus. We'll spend a good part of our lesson discussing the meanings of these words and the context in which they are written.

Read John 15:1-17

1. What does Jesus mean by "fruit?"
2. Discuss concrete ways of abiding, or remaining in Jesus, what does that look like in your life?
3. What are the results of abiding or remaining in Jesus, according to the following verses:

5 _____

7 _____

8 _____

11 _____

14 _____

17 _____

4. Which of the "fruits" of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) are mentioned in these chapters (Jn 14:27; 15:9, 11)
5. Which "commands" do you think Jesus is referring to in verse 17?

Read Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:18-27

1. What do you recall about the "systems" of the world?
2. Why are the systems of the world antithetical to Jesus's Way?
3. What insight does Jesus have about why? (v.25; see Luke 23:34)
4. In what concrete ways shall we abide with Jesus, going forward?
5. In what ways will the Spirit testify to us?