

Fruitful Branches

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I. The calling of the ministry has to do with multiplying laborers through the world. Laborers are “fruitful branches.” (John 15:7)

II. The fruitful branch.

A. God wants each disciple to be a fruitful branch.

B. We have two needs that must be satisfied.

1. Security—to be loved.
2. Significance—a sense of doing something important that will last for eternity.
3. Both of these are found in being a fruitful branch.

III. What it means to be a fruitful branch.

A. Abiding in Christ.

1. Abiding means to be connected to Christ.
2. Without contact with Christ, the spiritual life dies.
3. Christ is the power, and we are the transmitters.
4. One abides in Christ through surrender. It is both an initial and continual activity.
5. If one is not certain whether he has received Christ for the forgiveness of sins, he can do it for the first time immediately by asking Him into his heart.

B. Having Christ’s Word abide in the disciple.

1. The branch needs to be pruned.
2. Three reasons we need to be pruned.
 - a. For health.
 - b. For shape.
 - c. To produce more and better flowers from fruit. God prunes us to reward us.

C. Asking what one will that it will be done. One must pray to be fruitful.

Application questions.

1. How are our needs met through being fruitful branches?

2. What does it mean to abide in Christ according to the speaker?

3. In light of the message, what will you do to be a more fruitful branch?
