



“When you bear (produce) much fruit, My Father is honoured and glorified, and you show and prove yourselves to be true followers of Mine. You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed you [I have planted you], that you might go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit may be lasting [that it may remain, abide],” John 15:8,16 (AMPC).

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But the first direction of growth for the Christian is in knowing God. This knowledge of God is firstly about Who He is – the Almighty, Creator, Omnipotent and Sovereign Deity, deserving of All worship and loyalty;⁶ and secondly, knowing His expectations, hence the need for knowledge, recognition and understanding.⁷ This then helps and leads us into knowing what is pleasing and acceptable to Him, through a focused and committed prayer, fellowship, and study of His Word.⁸ This requires intentional and dedicated action, drawing on commitment submitted to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit.⁹ **One beauty of Christianity, and I must have shared this point before, is that, the Christian journey is ALL God-Driven, from start to finish. The Almighty God is the One who so loved that He gave His Only begotten Son to redeem a fallen and lost world. He too is the One who gives the faith to believe and be saved and reconciled to Himself. And then He it is who gives the grace – the unmerited favour made up of all the abilities we need to remain and flourish as His children.¹⁰ The only thing required of man [human beings], is to believe and maintain the faith that has being given to us, using the abilities and resources that God Himself has provided.¹¹ Is this not therefore a wonderful and desirable journey? This is the reason it is the fault of human beings if they go to the Lake of Fire and suffer eternal damnation and punishment with satan, the deceiver, through wilful disobedience.¹²**

But you may ask, how do I grow and be fruitful? The first imperative is to accept the command given to us, that was the focus of our meditation for last week.¹³ Then, go to the beginning of the chapter from which the key verses was taken for this week. Here we are taught again the **work of God the Father, the Vine Dresser, and the Vine, Jesus Christ, God the Son, and the requirement of Christians as branches.** Hear Jesus Christ, *“Dwell in Me, and I will dwell in you. [Live in Me, and I will live in you.] Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (being vitally united to) the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me. I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in him bears much (abundant) fruit. However, apart from Me [cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing.”¹⁴* The Christian is not a neutral, innocent, and helpless by-stander in the Christian journey. God did not make robots, and does not force anyone to follow Him, otherwise no one will have the choice to behave and be anything other than be a Christian. God created human beings in His Image and Likeness, and a vital aspect of this nature is that human beings are given a WILL and Reason, and this was not taken away even after the Fall. The Will and Reasoning ability of the devil was also not taken away after his rebellion led him and his supporters to be driven away from serving the Almighty God.¹⁵ **So, human beings exercise rationality and make decisions based on**



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what they Will to do, outside pressures and persuasions notwithstanding. The final decision still rests with the decision-maker; which is why each person will be held responsible and accountable for their decisions and actions at the appropriate time.¹⁶ So it is in the spiritual walk, growth, and maturity, which I call Progressive Sanctification of the Christian. And this must be seen as the Will of God for Christians.¹⁷

True, God oversees all that a child of God who has come to know Him do, because he has learned the principle of submission and loyalty to God, the individual must still learn and know his responsibilities and obligations as a child of the heavenly Kingdom. **The Scripture, ‘God works in us to will and to do of His good pleasure,’ does not make human beings robots.¹⁸ He did not create one.** God works in the individual who has come to recognize and accepted Him as His Creator, Redeemer, Reconciler, and great Benefactor. In appreciation of all of these investments in his life, he humbly submits to worship and serve this Great Lover of his soul.¹⁹ People who say that because of this statement, and the omnipotent nature of God, they leave everything to Him to make them happen, misunderstand God, or are simply mischievous. **Human beings, including Christians, are rational beings who make decisions based on their desires and choices²⁰.** I would like to interpret the above Scripture as, *God prompts, motivates, and supports willing ones to fulfil the plans and purposes that are good for their lives, and make them pleasing to God in the context of God’s overall plan and purpose for humanity.* Therefore, the writer of the Book of Hebrews admonishes, **“So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.”²¹** And again as the Scripture says, **“Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love.”²²** Yes, with love, not grudgingly, but with joy, counting yourself fortunate to be accepted by God out of the billions on earth to belong to His Kingdom which lasts forever. **Commit yourself to this wonderful journey. Give your whole self to it; submitting to the Holy Spirit, your loving and cheerful Teacher and Helper. Then you will make a good success of your life’s journey as a Christian. You will bear fruits, and keep bearing and your fruits will remain, and you will bring glory to your God, help and motivation to others, and joy and fulfilment to yourself.²³**

Now, we know God and are known by God, we are to Grow and Be Fruitful!

Have A God Centred And Focussed 2026.

Further & Daily Readings: John 15:1-16. 1. Jn. 15:8, 16; 2. Matt. 21:19; 3. Gen. 1:28; Deut. 7:13-14; 4. Eph. 1:10-12, 14; Matt. 24:14; 2Pet. 3:7, 10; 5. Jn. 15:8, 16; 6. Jer. 9:23-24; 7. 2Pet. 3:18; 8. 2Tim. 2:14-16; 9. Jn. 14:16 -17, 26; 16:7-11; 10. Rom. 3:25; 2Pet. 1:3-9; 11. Col. 1:21-23, Heb. 6:1-3; 12. Rev. 20:9-10, 12-15; 13. 2Pet. 3:18; 14. Jn. 15:1-2, 4-5; 15. Rev. 12:7-9; 16. Acts 17:30-31; 2Cor. 5:10; 17. Eph. 5:1-12, 1Thess. 4:3-5; 18. Phil. 2:13; 19. Deut. 10:1-4, 10-13; 20. James 1:13-15; 21. Heb. 12:12-13; 22. 1Cor. 16:13-14; 23. Jn. 15:8, 16.