



Prayer Journal DAY 8

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other."

John 15:16-17

Jesus clearly states the purpose for which we have been chosen in this scripture, "I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit." The idea of bearing fruit is used throughout the Bible and is often used synonymously with good works. In John 15, Jesus uses the analogy of the vine and the branches to describe our relationship with Him. Jesus describes himself as the vine, we are the branches. The vine provides everything the branches need for bearing fruit. Apart from the vine, the branches can do nothing (verse 5).

I like to consider myself a gardener – I dabble – and I know from experience that if the branches of my crop are not receiving nutrients from the vine, the fruit will not produce. It may look pretty on the outside but be rotten in the core, or it may look as bad on the outside as it is on the inside. But, with a solid connection to the vine and the intake of good nutrients, the branch will produce abundant fruit, which in return provide nutrition for those who partake of it.

Spiritually speaking, we are told in Galatians 5 to walk in the way of the Spirit (in keeping with what the Spirit desires) and the fruit (good works) is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. When we are solidly connected to the vine (Jesus), He provides for the branches (us) all our needs to produce healthy, beneficial fruit for us to share with all who are in need.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I pray that each day I choose to partake of you and the goodness you provide in order to fulfill my purpose in your kingdom. I pray that my heart stays pure, my mind remains on you and your purpose and my deeds unselfishly show the fruits of your Spirit. Amen.

Written by: Deb Cook

