

**JOHN 15:1-17**

- Recap: previously, we discussed vs 5-6. Jesus says without Him we can do nothing. This also means that He's going to do nothing, unless it's done through us. What a privilege and big responsibility at the same time, to be part of His plan.
- Vs7 speaks of withering branches being burned. This is not as much of a rebuke as it is as loving a warning that there can be.
- Remember the image that Jesus is creating here: we are part of Him. Who of us would want part of our own bodies to perish away?
- This week, we discuss vs 7-8

vs7 **"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."**

- This does not mean that we can have whatever we want, as much as it means that God will have His purposes come to pass through us! Because, when we're abiding in each other, His desires become ours, as opposed to Him submitting to our every whim (*a sudden desire or change of mind, especially one that is unusual or unexplained*)
- God is saying, **"My will be done, through your asking"** WOW!
- His will through our asking means we're saying: "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done"
- **PSALM 37:4** Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.
- As our delight becomes the Lord himself and not other things, He gives us more of Himself

vs8 **"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit"**

- The body of Christ and the unsaved world, will always benefit from Godly fruit, but, God's glory is always the primary goal.
- God desires a spirit of excellence in everything
- Perfection is my goal, excellence will be tolerated

**MATTHEW 5:48** Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

- The perfect here means complete, in Christ, not the worldly sense where we never make any mistakes.
- "My Father is glorified" True fruit always glorifies God and not man. A man with a pure heart, will always feel uncomfortable, when he gets glory that is due to God.
- There's a guy who always wanted the best of everything, not because he cared what anybody thought or because he wanted to impress anyone, but because his Father was like that

**PSALM 35:27** Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favour my righteous cause; and let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, **who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.**"

**1 CHRONICLE 16:29** Give to the LORD the glory **due His name**; bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!

**CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. What do you think Jesus meant when He said we'll get whatever we asked for? If this is true, why don't we always get what we ask for?

2. What appears to be the “conditions” to getting whatever we ask for? See **1 JOHN 5:14** Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
3. Why do you think God has such high standards, when we as humans are so weak? What does this say about His heart as a father?