

JOHN 15:1-17

- Recap: last week we discussed vs12-15
- We see Jesus raising the standard of love from “love as yourself to as I have loved you
- We see that loves involves sacrifice of laying down your life
- Jesus places relationship above results
- He let’s us in on the family secrets that pertain to life
- To conclude this series, we study v216-17:

vs16 **You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you**

- You’re not just the result of the union between a man and a woman
- God’s choice of you was very deliberate:
- As someone who’s surrendered their life to Christ, there’s been a change of ownership:
ISAIAH 43:1 But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; **you are Mine**
JEREMIAH 1:5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you
ROMANS 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren
1 CORINTHIANS 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?
EPHESIANS 1:4-5 “Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having **predestined** us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will”

- God’s purpose for us becoming like Jesus and being one with Him, is not for the sake of becoming these supernatural beings.

vs16 **that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain**

- You’re not just saved to be rescued from hell but for God’s higher purpose, namely, bear fruit and the Kingdom restored to us.

- A restored Kingdom: us exercising dominion over the work of God’s hands:

PSALM 8:6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands, You have put all things under his feet

vs16 **fruit should remain**

- **Remain**: God wants us living in lasting victory over the enemy

1 JOHN 5:19(NLTSE) We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one

vs16 **that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.**

- Our asking must be according to His will

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.

- God’s kingdom purpose will always be above any selfish ambition

vs17 These things I command you, that you love one another.”

GALATIANS 5:19-23(NLTSE) “When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!”

CARE GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What criteria dictates how we choose friends?
2. What does Jesus’ choice of friends, say about Him and us?
3. What aspect of God’s heart is revealed, by the fact that He chose us before anything was created?
4. What does it mean, that our fruit should “remain”?
5. Why are the desires of a sinful nature, so very different from the fruit of the Spirit? (see Galatians 5:19-23)