

“You Can Do Nothing Without Me.”

John 15:1-8

Do you want to have a fruitful, significant, meaningful life? Sure you do. People don't want to live in emptiness, waste, and futility. Well, I've got “good news” for you ... Jesus claims that you CAN be fruitful! In fact, He claims in today's Bible verses that remaining faithful to Him actually GUARANTEES a life of significance and meaning; and the opposite claim is also made by Jesus today: without Him, you can do nothing. Let's investigate these important claims.

A. Fruitfulness requires gardening, and gardening requires a gardener.

John 15:1, “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener.”

B. Gardeners garden.

John 15:2-3, “He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. ³ You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you.”

C. Healthy branches produce fruit.

John 15:4-5, Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. ⁵ “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

D. Spiritual health matters.

John 15:6-8, Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. ⁷ But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! ⁸ When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

A closing prayer ... “Dear God, we invite You to make us a fruitful people. Amen.”