

God the Gardener

Thrive – Part 1

John 15:1-8

January 3, 2010

"For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel." Isaiah 5:7

"In that day...sing about a fruitful vineyard: I, the Lord, watch over it; I water it continually. I guard it day and night so that no one may harm it." Isaiah 27:1-3

For Christians to Thrive and Produce Fruit, We Must Understand...

1. GOD THE FATHER IS THE GARDENER.

"...My Father is the vinedresser...." John 15:1b (NKJV)

2. JESUS IS THE VINE.

"I am the true vine..." John 15:1a (NKJV)

3. BELIEVERS ARE THE BRANCHES.

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NKJV)

- **Christians are to be Fruitful.**

"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit..." "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned." John 15:2, 5-6 (NKJV)

- **Christians are to be Very Fruitful.**

"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples." John 15:8 (NKJV)

- **Christians are to be Fruitful for a Lifetime.**

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you." John 15:16 (NKJV)

"That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." Colossians 1:10 (NKJV)

"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)