

Becoming A Devoted Follower Of Jesus
A Devoted Follower Keeps Growing - John 15
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
January 28, 2024

Sermon Notes

Big Idea: A Devoted Follower Keeps Growing In Their Relationship With Jesus

What Does A Devoted Follower Of Jesus Look Like?

1. They Continue To Grow In His Word

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He **cuts off** every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he **prunes** so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the **word** I have spoken to you. ⁴ **Remain** in me, and I will **remain** in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must **remain** in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you **remain** in me. ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man **remains** in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not **remain** in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you **remain** in me and my words **remain** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you **bear much fruit**, showing yourselves to be my disciples. **John 15:1-8 (NIV)**

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' ²⁴ "Therefore everyone who **hears** these words of mine and **puts them into practice** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." **Matthew 7:21-27 (NIV)**

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2. They Continue To Grow In Love For God And Others

⁹ "As the **Father has loved me**, so have **I loved you**. Now **remain** in my love. ¹⁰ If you obey my commands, you will **remain** in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and **remain** in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that **my joy** may be in you and that your **joy** may be complete. ¹² My command is this: **Love each other as I have loved you**. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. **John 15:9-13 (NIV)**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to
Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we **live**
by the Spirit, let us **keep in step** with the Spirit. **Galatians 5:22-25 (NIV)**

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3. They Continue To Grow In Supporting The Great Commission

¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because
a servant does not know his **master's business**. Instead, I have called you friends, for
everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose
me, but **I chose you** and **appointed** you to go and **bear fruit**--fruit that will last. Then the
Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷ This is my command: **Love each
other. John 15:14-17 (NIV)**

“Therefore go and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have
commanded you.” **Matthew 28:19-20a (NIV)**

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Cornerstone's Mission: To Help People Find and Follow Jesus

Cornerstone's Vision 2024: To become devoted followers of Jesus

- **Worship by responding to God's grace & mercy.**
- **Connect with grace-filled relationships.**
- **Grow in faith with personal application.**
- **Serve to build up God's family.**
- **Share God's message of forgiveness in Jesus.**

FIND [Share, Worship, Connect]
Preaching/Teaching
Worship
First Impression
Hospitality
Pray Quilt & Celebration of Birth
Pickleball
Bread Ministry
Men's Ministry
Women's Ministry

FOLLOW [Grow, Serve]
Preaching/ Teaching
Small Groups
Children's/ Teens Ministry
Foundation Class
Growth Classes
- Partnership
- Shape
- Share
Grief Share
Meal Train

SUPPORT MISSIONS
Hope for Israel
Together Freedom
Life Choices
In Faith
Believer's Bridge
Interfaith
IFCA

Operations: Administration. Facilities. Finances. Safety & Security. Website/Social Media

- **Will you continue to grow as a devoted follower of Jesus in 2024?**

I will continue to become a devoted follower of Jesus by:

- ☐ Sharing my story
- ☐ Attending a small group
- ☐ Supporting Cornerstone's Vision 2024
- ☐ Praying for the lost

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Small Group Leader: Choose how many questions that will honor your time commitment. Encourage everyone to participate in either a question, reading or prayer. If using this as a family devo, I suggest using the icebreaker section to go deeper on Sunday's teaching.

Cornerstone's Vision: We exist to make fully devoted followers of Jesus.

Open in Prayer.

Icebreaker: What are the marks of a true friendship?

What do you do to maintain your friendships?

How does the gardener tend to the branches that bear fruit and the branches that do not? (15:2)

How has God pruned you in the past?

What helps you to remain in Jesus?

What does it mean to bear fruit as a Christian?

What Does A Devoted Follower Of Jesus Look Like?

1. They Continue To Grow In His Word

Read John 15:1-8

What habits help you remain in the word of God?

What did Jesus say would happen to the branches that did not remain in Him? (15:6)

What privilege was given to the branches that remained in the vine? (15:7)

What would be demonstrated by the disciples' bearing much fruit? (15:8)

In what way has God been removing "dead" or useless pieces from your character?

Read Matthew 7:21-27

What kind of good work did some of these people do?

Why did Jesus say He never knew them?

What is the key to being a wise person?

Although storms hit all people, what is the secret to standing well instead of crashing?

2. They Continue To Grow In Love For God And Others**Read John 15:9-13**

What did Jesus urge His disciples to do? (15:9)

How were Jesus' disciples to remain in His love? (15:10)

What command did Jesus give His disciples? (15:12)

What is the greatest manifestation of love? (15:13)

In what way is your joy complete?

When do you struggle with loving others the way Jesus has loved you?

What kind of friend are you to Jesus?

Read Galatians 5:22-25

What does it mean to keep in step with the Spirit?

What attribute of the Spirit do you need to grow in?

3. They Continue To Grow In Supporting The Great Commission**Read John 15:14-17**

Why did Jesus call His disciples friends? (15:15)

What was Jesus' command? (15:17)

What steps can you take to develop a more intimate relationship with Christ?

How can you be a better friend to Jesus beginning today?

Close In Prayer: