

Fruit Bearer #5

Pray: Ask the Lord to teach you His Word.

Read: Ephesians 5:3-12

Fruit bearing is a mark of discipleship. Jesus said that it proves you are His disciple. This week you will search the Scriptures to discover the secret of fruit bearing.

1. This passage deals with deciding to be fruitful as a believer. Discover the things that lead to unfruitfulness.

- a) What three things should not even be named among saints? (v. 3)
- b) What three things are not proper for believers? (v. 4)

This does not mean that our conversation has to be humourless or weighed down with insincere talk about religion or morals. But the things we say should reflect thanksgiving to God for what He has done for us, and what He is doing in other people's lives. We should use our speech to speak truthfully, to thank God and to build others up. We must be consistently pointing to God in everything we say and do to show the world the way to Him.

- c) What three persons cannot get into heaven unless they change? (v. 5)

God is the Christian's centre of worship. When we choose things or activities that interfere with our relationship with God, they become like idols. They get the attention and "worship" that God deserves. Such worldly practices separate people from God, and will separate them from Him forever if they do not turn to Him and give up their sinful ways.

- 2. What is the directive contained in Ephesians 5:6?
- 3. How does God describe those who practice the sins listed above? (v. 6)
- 4. What are the two directives contained in Ephesians 5:7-10?
- 5. What is the fruit of the light or Spirit for those who no longer walk in darkness? (Vv. 8-9)
- 6. What does the Bible call the sinful activities of the lost? (v. 11)
- 7. Notice that sinful activities are unfruitful; whereas Christ like activities bear fruit (see Eph. 5:9, 11).
- 8. As you compare the life you lived before Christ to the life you live today, where have you seen the greatest change? In your language? Your desires? Your values? The way you treat your spouse? Your Children?

Pray together; ask the Lord to help each of you to participate in those things that bear fruit in your life for His glory.