

## A Committed Faith Growing Into Contentment

Lesson Three: Transformation, Commitment, and the Fruitfulness of Abiding in Christ

### Opening Encouragement

God is faithful. He is not merely the God who was, nor only the God who will be; He is the God who is. Because He has promised never to leave nor forsake His people, believers can live anchored in Him with confidence, joy, and expectation.

Faithfulness begins with recognizing that God is present even when He is not felt. His promises remain sure, His Word remains true, and His Spirit continues the work He has begun within each believer.

### Theme and Lesson Focus

The overarching theme is transformation rather than conformity. A committed faith is not a one-time decision only; it is a daily walk of obedience, surrender, renewal, and abiding in Christ.

*“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.” — Proverbs 3:5*

Believers are called to “sway with Jesus”—to move as He leads, trust His direction, and remain yielded to His will. As the Word renews the mind, more of self falls away and more of God fills the vessel.

### Primary Scripture

*“I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.” — John 15:5, KJV*

Jesus teaches that life, growth, and fruitfulness come from abiding in Him. The branch cannot produce apart from the vine. In the same way, a committed believer draws strength, nourishment, and direction from Christ.

### 1. Spring: The Season of Preparation

Spring represents promise, planting, and preparation. Before seed can bear fruit, the ground must be prepared to receive it. In the same way, the heart must be opened and softened by the Holy Spirit so that the Word of God can take root.

Jesus prepared His disciples before His departure. He promised another Comforter—the Holy Spirit—who would teach them, bring His words to remembrance, and cause what had been planted in them to grow.

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*“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things.” — John 14:26, KJV*

## 2. The Mystery of the Seed

The seed contains promise. An apple seed does not look like an apple tree, yet within it is the potential for roots, branches, leaves, blossoms, and fruit. Likewise, the Word planted in the believer may begin unseen, but it carries the power of God to produce lasting spiritual fruit.

*“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.” — 1 Corinthians 3:6, KJV*

Growth does not belong to the planter or the one who waters. God gives the increase. The believer’s responsibility is to receive the Word, remain in the right environment, and allow the Holy Spirit to nurture what God has planted.

## 3. Disturbing the Dirt

As roots grow, they disturb the dirt around them. They make room, push aside what stands in the way, and establish deeper support for the plant. Spiritually, the Word of God disturbs the places in the mind and heart that do not agree with God.

*“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.” — Romans 12:2, KJV*

Transformation is an ongoing process. More of self is pushed aside so that more of the Word may take root. The believer decreases as the Word increases, becoming more anchored, more surrendered, and more fruitful.

## 4. Summer: The Season of Perseverance

Summer follows spring. After seedtime comes harvest, but the harvest requires time, patience, watering, pruning, and perseverance. The believer must remain planted, even when storms come and adversity tests the depth of the roots.

*“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest... shall not cease.” — Genesis 8:22, KJV*

A committed faith stands through life’s issues because it is rooted in God’s Word. Trials are not wasted. God uses every season, every difficulty, and every pruning process to produce the peaceable fruit of righteousness.

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### 5. Bearing Much Fruit

*“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season.” — Psalm 1:3, KJV*

Fruit is not produced for the tree itself. A fruit tree bears fruit so that others may be nourished. In the same way, believers bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance for the blessing and strengthening of others.

### Key Takeaways

- God is faithful, present, and actively working in the believer.
- The Word of God is seed planted in the prepared heart.
- Spiritual growth requires time, surrender, and perseverance.
- Transformation happens as the Word renews the mind and pushes aside what is not like God.
- Abiding in Christ produces fruit that blesses others and glorifies God.

### Reflection Questions

1. Where is God disturbing the “dirt” in my mind so that His Word can grow more deeply?
2. Am I remaining connected to the Vine, or am I trying to produce fruit apart from Him?
3. What season of growth am I in right now: preparation, planting, pruning, perseverance, or harvest?
4. How is the fruit God is producing in me nourishing others?

### Closing Encouragement

Remain anchored in Christ. Let the Word continue to take root, disturb what must be moved, and grow into the fruit God designed you to bear. God has begun a good work, and He is faithful to complete it. Because God is faithful, you can live a committed faith.