

## **SESSION 12: CHOOSING (6)**

Called ♦ Chosen ♦ Appointed

### **A. Chosen because of Fruitfulness**

God calls all of us, but according to scripture, few are actually chosen for the work of His kingdom. He can only choose those who are *faithful* and *fruitful*.

(14 "For many are called, but few are chosen." Matt 22:14)

When you are gifted, you should be fruitful. Fruitfulness is a confirmation of your gifting.

<b>Student assignment: Read John 15:16</b>
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#### **John 15: 16**


<sup>16</sup> You did not choose Me, but I **chose** (to pick or choose one from among many) 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.

Definition of Appointed: called into an office by God and given a place of authority for His divine purposes and the advancement of His kingdom.

~ God is choosing you to bear fruits, but He chooses and separates you according to your fruitfulness. **When He sees that you are fruitful, He can put you in higher positions.**

God will never speak to you only from the position you are currently at. He will always speak from a higher position; always encouraging you to grow, to come higher; to stretch yourself beyond just what your gift(s) are. You will need to lean into Him for empowerment and His grace to achieve more.

**Student assignment: Read John 15: 1-8**

**How can I be fruitful?**  In the process of “abiding in Him” (being faithful in your commitment to remain with Him) you become fruitful.

**Jesus Is the Vine—Followers Are Branches**

**15** “I am the <sup>a</sup>**true** vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> **Abide in Me**, (remain, continue to be present, wait/tarry, do not become another or different than me) and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. <sup>5</sup> “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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

<sup>A</sup>**true vine** - Greek Def of “true” vine (John 15:1)

1. that which not only has the “name” and “resemblance”, but the **real nature** corresponding to the name
  2. in every respect corresponding to the **idea** signified by the **name**
  3. real, true, genuine
  4. opposite to what is fake, counterfeit, imaginary, simulated or pretended
    - it **contrasts realities with their semblances (what is real, versus what something looks like)**
  5. opposite of what is imperfect/defective
  6. opposite of frail/uncertain
- You will produce the same fruit as the vine you are grafted into. So if you are connected to a “vine” that is not Jesus Himself, you will be producing man-made fruit that looks and acts like the vine you are connected to. This is not the true fruit of the spirit, or the fruit that is of Jesus. Only fruit that is of Jesus will remain.

**B. Chosen because of God’s Covenant**

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not of works, lest anyone should boast.

You are chosen by grace, not by “works.”

Let's look at the differences:

Work: earned

Grace: gift

Work: limited

Grace: unlimited

Work: we exalt us

Grace: we exalt God

GRACE: Through grace you enter the presence of God with love and confidence. Grace shifts your eyes to look on God, not yourself. Remember, you are a son and daughter of the Father. He looks down on you and loves you - that is the grace of GOD!

WORK: The law teaches us to earn blessings. Law will always cause you to focus on your faults. Law will always cause you to live in guilt and condemnation. Any mentality of guilt and condemnation is of the law, and not of grace.

***Remember these 2 practical comparisons:***

1. The law will cause you to always live in “the courtroom of God.”
2. Grace will always cause you to live in “the living room of God.”

We are saved by grace so if you will rely on grace, you will live a victorious life. Grace brings freedom to you - Law enslaves you. God sets you free. It is not by your own strength, but His.

***Grace brings conviction, resulting in repentance and forgiveness. Law brings condemnation, resulting in guilt and bondage.***

**Please note: following the completion of this section we will turn more focus directly to Timothy as an example of the things we've been discussing. As you are reading the Word daily, I encourage you to take some time to read 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy over the next several weeks.**