

Five Keys to Effective Christian Living

John 15:1-17

Introduction:

(1) The sincere desire of every committed Christian is to be an **effective** disciple of Christ.

(2) However, this effectiveness is NOT:

- automatic
- reserved for a “select few”
- simple result of “being sincere”

(3) The Bible teaches disciples are MADE—not BORN.

(4) John 15 outlines 5 salient keys to effective Christian discipleship.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Becoming a Christian is a CHOICE.• This is equally true of DISCIPLESHIP.• We are just as spiritual as we CHOOSE to be. |
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I. Key to Effective Christian Living Is **Bearing Fruit for Him**—15:2,5,8
Word “fruit” is found 8 times in 17 verses

II. Key to Bearing Fruit Is **Abiding in Him**—15:4-7
Words “abide,” “continue,” “remain” (one word in Greek) are found 11 times in 17 verses.

III. Key to Abiding in Him Is **Obeying Him**—15:9-10,14
Notice four short commands:

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| (1) Abide in Me—15:4 | [• These are not “suggestions” |
| (2) Bear Much Fruit—15:8 | [but commands . |
| (3) Keep My Commands—15:10 | [• The key here is |
| (4) Love Each Other—15:12,17 | [“The Lordship of Jesus Christ.” |

IV. Key to Obeying Him Is **Loving Him**—15:9,12-13

V. Key to Loving Him Is **Knowing Him**—15:15

Conclusion:

To know Him is to love Him.

To love Him is to obey Him.

To obey Him is to abide in Him.

To abide in Him is to bear fruit for Him.

To bear fruit for Him is to be effective in Christian living.