

“Communion with Jesus and Fruitfulness”

John 15:15-17

Jesus has brought us into a true and loving communion with Himself.

1. Jesus Has Made Us His Friends!

v. 15

*“No longer do I call you servants,
for a servant does not know what his master is doing,
but I have called you friends”*

(1) No longer mere servants!

-1- Surely we are His servants, but we are so much more than that to Him!

-2- A servant or slave was not privy to the thoughts and plans of his master!

- The master did not confide in his servant; he was not intimate with him!
- The servant only received the commands of the master and did his bidding

(2) Jesus has brought us into fellowship with Himself as friends!

-1- How?

- As the True Vine of heaven, through whom the life and the love of God has come to us
- By doing for us what we could never do for ourselves
- In showing the supreme demonstration of love for us cf. v. 13
- By bringing us into a saving knowledge of God

-2- The Nature of our Communion with Him

*“I have called you friends,
for all things that I heard from My Father
I have made known to you.”*

- Intimacy!
- The true knowledge of God – saving knowledge! cf. 14:21, 23
- He comes by His Spirit to dwell within us

2. Jesus Has Guaranteed that Our Lives Should Be Fruitful

v. 16

(1) His Sovereign Initiative in Choosing His Own

*“You did not choose Me,
but I chose you...”*

- Lit: “It was not you that chose Me; on the contrary, I chose you”

(2) His Sovereign Determination to Make Us Fruitful

-1- Jesus’ determination – none can thwart His will! *“and (I) appointed you
that you should go and bear fruit,
and that your fruit should remain”*
“I appointed you”

-2- The sure outcome: *That you should keep on going
That you should keep on bearing fruit
That your fruit should keep on remaining*

What fruit? Chiefly, the fruit of love!
Love to Him and love to one another!

(3) The Wonderful Means He Ordained to Bring this about: Prayer!

*“that whatever you ask the Father in My name
He may give you.”*

-1- Prayer arising out of our communion with Him!

-2- Jesus’ sovereign purpose that we should bear fruit should fuel our prayers!

3. Jesus Has Brought Us into True Friendship with Each Other

v. 17

(1) We have been brought into this communion of love! *“These things I command you,
that you love one another.”*

(2) It is our privilege to show forth this divine love to the glory of God.

Further Application: