

40 DAYS IN THE WORD
LEARNING TO UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF A TEXT
John 15:1-17

Look at the historical context. John 15:13-17

- **Who** is being spoken to? **Why?** **What** did it mean to them?
- Jesus is teaching and modeling about **servicing** others. John 13:1-15
- Jesus' **promises** to His disciples. John 14:1-31
 - He is going to prepare a **place** for them in Heaven. John 14:1-11
 - He is telling them He will **hear** them when they pray and answer. John 14:12-14
 - He is telling them He will **send** the Holy Spirit to live in them and comfort them. John 14:15-25
 - He is telling them He will **give** them peace as only He can. John 14:27-31

John 15:11

These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

Look for and define key words. John 15:1-17

We interpret verses that are unclear by those that are clear. John 15:4, 8, 11

- Bearing fruit is produced by remaining in **Christ**. John 15:4
Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.
- Bearing fruit brings glory to **God** and no one else. John 15:8
My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.
- Bearing fruit will give us His complete **joy**. John 15:11
These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

Look for the most obvious meaning.

- Remaining in Christ will **produce** answered prayer. John 15:7
If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- Answered prayer will always bring **glory** to God. John 14:13
Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- Answered prayer will give us **all** His complete joy. John 16:24
Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.
- We bear fruit by **asking** in prayer. John 15:16
You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.