

Wednesday, October 19, 2011  
Stories and Teachings of Jesus  
Fruit  
John 15:1-6

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. John 15:1-6, NIV

When the crowds came to John for baptism, he said, “You brood of snakes! Who warned you to flee God’s coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. Don’t just say to each other, ‘We’re safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.’ That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones. <sup>9</sup> Even now the ax of God’s judgment is poised, ready to sever the roots of the trees. Yes, every tree that does not produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into the fire.”

<sup>10</sup> The crowds asked, “What should we do?”

<sup>11</sup> John replied, “If you have two shirts, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry.”

<sup>12</sup> Even corrupt tax collectors came to be baptized and asked, “Teacher, what should we do?”

<sup>13</sup> He replied, “Collect no more taxes than the government requires.”

<sup>14</sup> “What should we do?” asked some soldiers.

John replied, “Don’t extort money or make false accusations. And be content with your pay.”  
Luke 3:7-14, NLT

For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10, NIV

I want my talk, my thoughts, and my works to be consistent with my profession of faith.  
Such purity in speech, thinking and action will require a lot of:

- **Grace**
- **Repentance**
- **Obedience**
- **Worship**
- **Trust**
- **Healing**

My Abiding or Continuous, Open-Ended Prayer:

Jesus, I believe. I want my talk, my thoughts and my works to be consistent with my faith in you. What do you want me to do right now?