FOOTSTEPS What it Really Means to Follow Jesus

<u>WHERE'S THE FRUIT?</u>

John 15:1-11

Jeff Schreve

- Q. What is the evidence that you are truly following Jesus?
- A. Fruit.
- Q. How does a Christian produce fruit?
- A. By abiding in Jesus.

I am the vine, you are the branches; He who abides in Me, and I in Him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing. John 15:5

1. Understand that the Lord really does love you.

Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in my love. John 15:9

- A. The Lord wants to be with you.
- B. The Lord wants what is best for you.

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not with Him freely give us all things. Romans 8:32

C. The Lord wants you to <u>live in His love</u>.

If you keep My commandments you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. John 15:10

2. Understand that the Lord <u>really is at work in you</u>.

I am the true vine and My father is the vinedresser. John 15:1

A. If you are unfruitful, He will discipline you.

Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away. John 15:2

- 1. Discipline is never fun.
- 2. Discipline lasts as long as you disobey. *It is hard for you to kick against the goads. Acts 26:14*
- B. If you are fruitful, He will prune you.

And every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it that it may bear more fruit. John 15:2

- 1. The pruning is <u>painful</u>.
- 2. The pruning is <u>necessary</u>.

When Jesus looks at you, does He see the fruit?