"Go and Bear Fruit"

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – November 10, 2013

John 15:1,2,4,8,16

I "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 <u>He cuts off</u> <u>every branch in me that bears no fruit</u>, while <u>every branch that does</u> <u>bear fruit he prunes</u> so that it will be <u>even more fruitful</u>. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. <u>No branch can bear fruit by itself</u>; it must remain in the vine. <u>Neither can you bear fruit unless you</u> <u>remain in me</u>. 8 <u>This is to my Father's glory</u>, <u>that you bear much</u> <u>fruit</u>, showing yourselves to be my disciples. 16 You did not choose me, but <u>I chose you</u> and <u>appointed you to go and bear fruit</u> — <u>fruit</u> <u>that will last</u>..."

<u>2 Cor 5:19-20</u>

19... [Christ] <u>has committed to us the message of reconciliation</u>. 20 <u>We are therefore Christ's ambassadors</u>, as though God were making his appeal through us.

Jesus says that...

I. YOU HAVE BEEN <u>HAND-PICKED</u> BY HIM v. 16a "You did not choose me, but I chose you"

Jesus says that...

2. YOU HAVE BEEN PICKED FOR A PURPOSE

v. 16b "[I] appointed you to <u>go and bear fruit-fruit that will</u> <u>last</u>."

The only fruit that truly lasts is the Good News of Jesus Christ

John 4:13-14

13 [Jesus told the Samaritan woman] "Everyone who drinks this water (physical water) will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him (spiritual water) <u>will never thirst</u>. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a <u>spring of</u> water welling up to eternal life." Jesus says that...

3. HE IS THE <u>SOURCE</u> OF GOOD FRUIT

v. 4 "Remain in me, and I will remain in you. <u>No branch can</u> <u>bear fruit by itself</u>; it must remain in the vine. <u>Neither can you</u> <u>bear fruit unless you remain in me</u>."

<u>Luke 10:1-3</u>

I After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and <u>sent</u> <u>them two by two</u> ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. 2 He told them, "<u>The harvest is plentiful</u>, but <u>the workers are few</u>. <u>Ask the Lord of the harvest</u>, therefore, <u>to send out workers</u> into his harvest field. <u>3 Go! I am sending</u> <u>you out</u> like lambs among wolves."

Jesus says that...

4. GOOD FRUIT BRINGS GOD GLORY

v. 8 <u>This is to my Father's glory</u>, <u>that you bear much fruit</u>, showing yourselves to be my disciples.